

# THE ACADEMY.

A WEEKLY REVIEW OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

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SATURDAY, JULY 28, 1883.

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**MR. WILKIE COLLINS** is at present engaged on a NEW NOVEL, which will be ready for SERIAL PUBLICATION in DECEMBER. It will be published in a limited number of Newspapers, the list of which is not yet complete. Newspaper Proprietors who may wish to avail themselves of this story can obtain terms on application to A. P. WATT, 34, Paternoster-row, London, E.C.

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The EXAMINATION for the ENTRANCE EXHIBITIONS will be held on the 25th and 27th of SEPTEMBER.

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## LITERATURE.

*A Dictionary of Christian Biography.* Edited by William Smith and Henry Wace. Vol. III. (John Murray.)

THIS important work has now advanced within measureable distance of completion, though it may be doubted whether another volume will prove sufficient, considering how heavy are some of the letters still awaiting treatment. The first article which calls for notice is a very careful one on the "Hexapla," by Dr. Taylor, Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, whose competence as a Hebraist enables him to put the chief textual facts clearly before his readers, though for one or two points we might have got more from Mr. Field, whose specialty this subject is. Mr. Fremantle's "Hieronymus," while respectably executed, requires to be supplemented for bibliographical purposes by Prof. Ramsay's article in the *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Biography*, and is far too perfunctory in dealing with Jerome's considerable position as a Biblical scholar, as also with his letters, viewed as *mémoires pour servir*. But the estimate of his character is just, on the whole. Chancellor Cazenove's two Hilarys, of Poitiers and Arles, belong to a higher and more finished type of scholarship; and it is interesting to compare his treatment of the episode of Chelidonius of Besançon, in the second of these papers, with Mr. Gore's handling of it as it appears in his notice of Leo the Great. Another extremely valuable item is Prof. Salmon's "Hippolytus Romanus." Several years ago he contributed a paper on the Chronology of Hippolytus to the journal *Hermathena*, which contained some useful suggestions on the evidence it affords as to some obscure points in the early annals of the local Roman Church; and on the present occasion he returns to the subject, and also discusses carefully the problems put forward by Dr. von Döllinger in his brilliant essay, *Hippolytus und Kallistus*. Mr. Plummer's account of the Ecclesiastical Historians is somewhat meagre, and needs amplification, though it is trustworthy so far as it goes. Mr. Barmby's "Honorius (Pope)" scarcely provides the student with sufficient materials on which to base a judgment upon that Pontiff's relation to Monophysism, on which much light has been thrown by Mr. Le Page Renouf. But he makes amends almost immediately in his "Hormisdas," where he summarises very happily one of the most intricate and driest episodes in all ecclesiastical history—that concerned with the forced submission of the Eastern bishops to the Formulary of that

Pope, thrust on them for political ends by the Emperor Justin, though we miss the key to the conduct of the latter, which was simply his desire to secure an ally in the Pope for that meditated reconquest of Italy which was actually effected under Justinian I. by the arms of Belisarius. From Mr. Stokes, a scholar of much promise, there is a very convenient summary of the Iconoclastic controversy, which, however, might have been slightly expanded from Dupin with advantage in treating of the Second Council of Nicaea. There is a misprint, by-the-by, just at this point, Card. Pitra's name being spelt "Petra." Canon Travers Smith devotes a very careful and useful paper to St. Ignatius, and pronounces, after a survey of the controversy, for the substantial genuineness of the famous and long-disputed epistles—a conclusion which, though not unattended by difficulties, is at any rate the least perplexing one. The "Irenaeus" of Prof. Lepsius is another valuable contribution to the Dictionary, going into the subject at a length proportioned to its real importance rather than to any merely popular estimate, and giving a convenient outline of the Gnostic controversy as it stood in the second century. Prof. Leathes has done better in his notice of Isidore of Seville than in any literary effort we have seen previously from his pen; but it is not substantially an advance on Prof. Ramsay's article on the same subject, for, while a little fuller in bibliography, it is silent on the political aspects of Isidore's life. Mr. Lupton's "Johannes Damascenus" is a painstaking and, on the whole, a commendable article; but there is not enough attention given to his treatise *De Fide Orthodoxa* in view of its importance as having formulated Oriental theology, doing for it almost what Peter Lombard and St. Thomas Aquinas did for Latin divinity; and there seems a lack of first-hand knowledge respecting it. "Jordanis," by Mr. Dyke Acland, though not a very long article, and concerned with but a minor personage, is a very favourable example of the Dictionary, being scholarly and instructive. In Dr. Edersheim's "Josephus" the reader will find what is probably the most convenient monograph on the subject—one on which criticism is far from having said its last word. Mrs. Humphry Ward has done excellent service by her contributions in this Dictionary to the obscure and difficult history, ecclesiastical and civil, of Visigothic Spain, as in the articles on Julian of Toledo, Leovigild, and Martin of Braga. One of the finest items in the work is the all but exhaustive article by Mr. John Wordsworth on the Emperor Julian, which presents him impartially, and with full justice done to the nobler side of his complex nature. It is a pity, however, to have left unquoted the remarkable tribute of Prudentius to the memory of the last great foe of Christianity in the Empire:

"ductor fortissimus armis,  
Conditor et legum, celeberrimus ore manique,  
Consultor patriae, sed non consultor habendae  
Religionis, amans tercenta millia divum.  
Perfidus ille Deo, quamvis non perfidus Urbi."

Another article, upon a similar scale, on the Emperor Justinian I., by Prof. Bryce, is of much value, and a marked advance upon the earlier one, by two hands, in the *Dictionary*

of *Greek and Roman Biography*. "Justinian II.," on the contrary, is not so good an article as its precursor in that work. Mr. H. S. Holland, a rising scholar and theologian from whom we are justified in looking for considerable results, is well to the front here with his "Justin Martyr." Mr. Ffoulkes, in his "Lactantius," takes a little too much for granted as to the degree of preparation with which the average reader will consult this Dictionary. Excellent in itself, and showing first-hand acquaintance with the subject, the article might be more helpful to those who do not know much of the literary position and claims of Lactantius. Mr. Gore's "Leo the Great," already referred to, is less popular and more judicial than the biographical sketch he prepared for the S. P. C. K., which erred a little in the direction of eulogy of one who, eminent as ruler and as theologian, yet had few scruples in pushing the claims of his chair, and, if unselfish personally, was officially one of the most ambitious men the world has ever seen. Mr. Stokes describes the important *Liber Pontificalis* adequately in an article which ought to have followed the "Liber Diurnus" in the *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities*. "Liberius," by Mr. Barmby, is carefully and fairly done, and does not press polemical conclusions too far, as is sometimes the case with writers on the subject. There is less in this volume from Canon Stubbs than we should have been glad to see, most of his work being confined to assisting Canon Raine in the ungrateful labour of disinterring a number of obscure and unimportant Anglo-Saxon names; but here and there there is an entry, such as his "Lullus," which usefully clears up difficulties. Mr. Stokes is instructive, but a little too brief, in dealing with Manes and the Manichaeans. So subtle and pervading a form of thought as Manichaeism, powerfully affecting Christianity to the present hour (and not least through the influence of St. Augustine, who never got it out of his veins, even when combating it most emphatically), needed ampler exposition. Mr. Stokes is helpful also in his "Marcion," though here, too, we desiderate a somewhat fuller handling of the interesting problems connected with Marcion's use of the New Testament. Dr. Cazenove's article on St. Martin of Tours is noticeable, apart from its general excellence, for some sensible and philosophical remarks on the attitude of mind in which a modern reader should approach the supernatural element in biographies of this class. Under "Mithras," another of Mr. Stokes's scholarly articles, we should have liked some discussion of the singular rite of *tauribolia*, one of the most remarkable of heathen ceremonies, and unfortunately omitted from the *Dictionary of Greek and Roman Antiquities*. "Montanus" is another of the excellent contributions for which we are indebted to Prof. Salmon, in which he incidentally remarks on the serious limitation that the triumph of Montanism would have imposed on Christian thought, if every new revelation had been taken as defining doctrine, as in truth has been the case more than once in our own time in various Christian bodies. Dr. Badger's "Muhammad" is a learned and useful paper, exhibiting much study; but it is perhaps not

captious to say that it assumes in places too much the shape of a mere review of Sir William Muir's biography, with which the consulters of a dictionary are not directly concerned. The last item necessary to specify is Prof. Salmon's on the Muratorian Fragment, wherein he puts forward a view at present confined to himself, but for which he argues in a fashion which will gain him some adherents—that the fragment belongs to the time of Pope Zephyrinus, sixty years after the date currently received.

In the strictly theological articles, too much has been entrusted to Prof. Swainson, whose papers are not very helpful, and do not compare favourably with those by Mr. Swete on similar topics, seemingly from lack of grasp and clearness. Much of the most unpretending, but by no means the least laborious or useful, part of the work is due to Mr. Hole, from whom we have many of the obscure entries, which involve, as a rule, far more trouble in getting at the facts than is the case with personages of importance, where a plethora of materials is often the chief inconvenience to be encountered. This instalment, on the whole, does not merely sustain the level attained in the former volumes, but raises the average merit of the work in virtue of the exceptional value of some of the articles.

RICHARD F. LITTLEDALE.

*George Sand. "Eminent Women" Series.*  
By Bertha Thomas. (W. H. Allen.)

A LIFE of George Sand for English readers is by no means an easy book to write. On the whole, Miss Thomas has succeeded far better than we had any right to expect. The arrangement into chapters and periods is fairly reasonable, though the literary history of George Sand does not permit us to trace the steady development so much as the oscillations of genius. What we cannot understand is the singular awkwardness of style, which at times looks almost like that of a foreigner who is not quite at home in her English. Thus we find, "As an actress into many a favourite part, so could she throw herself into her favourite characters;" or, again, "Finally the position M. de Lamennais had taken up as the apostle of the people further enlisted her sympathies in his cause, which made religious one with social reform, and amalgamated," &c. Nor are we prepared as yet to recognise such words as "environment" and the rest of the Herbert Spencerian vocabulary in a non-scientific style. Beyond this we have no serious fault to find, save that, even when she quotes George Sand's own confession—"When I begin a novel I have no plan, it arranges itself whilst I write, and becomes what it may"—she utterly fails to notice the singular defect (singular in such a writer) of all the longer romances—their want of persistent continuity. Here George Sand has herself spoken the last word. She takes up an idea, plunges in *medias res*, and exhausts it in a hundred delicious pages. She then vacillates amid tiresome conversations, emotional analysis, and such like for another hundred, till she hits upon some new, usually inconsequent, and often very inferior idea for her *dénouement*. Hence

many of her books—for instance, *Mauprat* and *Consuelo*—are each two stories separated by a sort of *παράβασις*. No novelist so soon captivates, or so soon fatigues, the fancy. And yet when after a few months we take up another of her books we feel the old charm as freshly as ever.

Miss Thomas is discreetly indulgent to M<sup>me</sup>. Dudevant's weaknesses, probably more out of regard for her readers than for her heroine. Still, we think that a plain word as to her actual relations to de Musset and others would not have been out of season. Putting her husband on one side, as perhaps we may, we cannot help saying out that these love affairs were a flagrant outrage on the rôle *d'une mère* to which she was so volubly devoted. Of the de Musset controversy she says quite enough. It is, in fact, a stupid, contemptible story, and equally so in both versions. With the later phases of the dispute Miss Thomas seems unacquainted, or that it is to be revived, I think in 1910, when de Musset's sealed papers in the Bibliothèque nationale will be opened—among them, no doubt, George Sand's letters, which he rather basely caused to be copied by his sister before returning them. Though Paul de Musset, without the least evidence, branded as a forgery the letter published by Louis Blanc in his *Homme libre*, where Alfred says, "Nous sommes deux comètes qui se sont rencontrées pour se broyer," the sentence well expresses the vain, self-deluding, professional nature of their attachment. Even so late as 1881 a fresh disclosure seemed imminent, when M. Maurice Sand was publishing the *Correspondance* of his mother, had not M. Troubat, the literary legatee of Paul de Musset, intervened by a threat of retaliatory indiscretion. It were well if both parties would thus continue to imitate the comets.

As a Life we doubt whether we need more than Miss Thomas has given us, if even so much. She trusts little, but still far too much, to the *Mémoires* and to the *Histoire de ma Vie*, which are both rich in innocent make-believe and amiable attempts to repair the lapses of a confessedly bad memory. For instance, the silly tale of her infantine religion, an attempt to combine the Christian and Greek graces (by a child of ten!), the woodland altar, at which the sacrifices were the release of captive birds and butterflies (who, by-the-by, captured them?), and what Miss Thomas seems to think the curious coincidence of similar fibs being told of the youthful Goethe. In short, we have here the real M<sup>me</sup>. Dudevant, a very good, and therefore a very inconsistent, woman, whose head was often turned, but never for long; who, thinking herself an influence, was constantly being influenced by others, and seldom for the better. Her manliness, repulsive enough in some phases, is refreshing in her perfect friendship and sympathy with her son, to whom she was rather a father than a mother. As to her political career, looked at from the point of view of to-day, she had no cause to blush deeper than Lamartine, Ledru-Rollin, and the other wiseacres; and the revolution of '48, engendered, born, and brought up in vanity and conceit, could hardly suffer much by the meddling of a woman. At least George Sand came to her senses sooner than

the other *parleurs*, and she never lost them again like Jules Favre and his party. But, indeed, her vagaries, if a little self-conscious, were never self-seeking; and in her wildest rhapsodies we miss the monotonous bray of the French political ass: "La France, La France." A true patriot all the same, she sought rather the happiness of humanity than the glory of France, or, in other words, of herself. She was very silly, but not to her dishonour.

On the whole, we should accept Miss Thomas's estimate of the various novels even of the Socialistic series. Everywhere she gives proof of careful reading and judicious reflection. Of the Pastoral stories she speaks with deserved admiration. George Sand felt and understood the country life as no other French writer has done. This, more than anything, has led to the absurd idea that her genius was English in quality, which it certainly is not. But, in a way the English especially can appreciate, she does somehow contrive to give a marvellous impression not only of details, but of the very atmosphere of the scenery and tone of the life she loved so well. Who that has used a Guide-book has not found that it guides only to the desert, and that the thousand little Paradises open only to those who search for themselves? But knowing well that glorious central heart of France she has painted, and even now writing these lines in the remote recesses of the Ardennes, I am more and more struck to find how familiar each place she has described seems even at the first view. True, she magnifies, exaggerates, idealises; but none the less she imparts the *cachet*, the peculiar individuality which the landscape of every country possesses.

The moral power of her work it is hard to estimate. Equally hard is it to say what she could not have done had she done less. Possibly she reached in *Mauprat* her limit of vigorous originality; in *La petite Fadette* and *Le Meunier d'Angibault*, of genial pathos; and of intellectual dignity in *Consuelo*. But here I cannot but think her inferior to M<sup>me</sup>. de Staël in spite of her miserable defects. Some time ago Mr. Creighton compared very admirably the characters of *Consuelo* and *Romola* as types of Venice and Florence. Strange that he did not add *Corinne*, the Roman poetess, who far more than the other two embodies the glories, the weaknesses, the sorrows of her city. *Consuelo* was but a child of the people, like George Sand's mother. *Corinne* is a higher spiritual type. After all, the great-granddaughter of Saxe was far more *bourgeoise* than the child of Necker, who is always the *grande dame* by education, if not by race.

E. PURCELL.

*The Sutherland Evictions of 1814.* Former and Recent Statements respecting them examined. By Thomas Sellar. (Longmans.)

Most people who take an interest in the land question of the Highlands have heard of the notorious case of the Strathnaver evictions. In 1807 the Marquis of Stafford began, and afterwards continued energetically to carry out, his scheme for the improvement of Sutherland. From time to time, as leases fell in,



the sub-tenants were removed from the interior to the coast, where, with the sea before them, they would no longer have to depend entirely for subsistence on an ungrateful soil, and their holdings were thrown into sheep pasture. In 1814, following out this policy, a Mr. Patrick Sellar, then factor to the Marquis of Stafford, removed some tenants from a farm in Strathnaver, which he himself had taken. He was afterwards accused of having carried out the evictions with great brutality, of having destroyed property belonging to the tenants, and of having occasioned the death of several sick persons. On these charges he was brought to trial in 1816, when a jury, with the approval of the judge, unanimously acquitted him. In the following year the Sheriff-Substitute of Sutherland, who had been instrumental in getting up the prosecution, wrote a letter to Mr. Sellar, acknowledging that the statements contained in the precognition which he took in Strathnaver "were to such an extent exaggerations as to amount to absolute falsehoods." The affair, however, was not allowed to sleep. Many years afterwards there appeared in an Edinburgh newspaper a series of letters by a certain Donald MacLeod on the Highland clearances, and the charges against Sellar were repeated with much violence of language. These letters have been lately reprinted by Mr. Mackenzie, the editor of the *Celtic Magazine*, and have been quoted as authoritative by Mr. Wallace in his *Land Nationalisation* and by Prof. Blackie in *Altavona*. Believing MacLeod's allegations to be "absolutely false," Mr. Thomas Sellar has written this vindication of his father.

The book contains a short introduction on the policy of the Sutherland clearances, a statement of what happened in Strathnaver, a review of the trial, and a criticism of later writers, together with a detailed examination of MacLeod's allegations. In the Appendix are reprinted the report of the trial, and Mr. Thomas Sellar's correspondence with Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Wallace, and Prof. Blackie. If the purpose of the book was to convince the world that the jury acted rightly in acquitting Mr. Patrick Sellar, probably nobody will question that it is successful. The charge of culpable homicide was obviously untenable and was withdrawn; and on the evidence as to real injury and oppression it would appear, perhaps not so obviously, that the factor kept within the law. The witnesses for the prosecution did not agree, though it is not clear why Mr. Thomas Sellar accuses the chief witness of perjury.

Further, it will be readily conceded that neither Mr. Mackenzie nor Mr. Wallace nor Prof. Blackie has given a fair account of the case. Mr. Mackenzie, in particular, who is timid, uncritical, and biassed, has done his cause much harm by compiling very badly what he calls a History of the Highland Clearances. But if Mr. Thomas Sellar goes another step, and asks us to believe that the evictions in Strathnaver were not barbarous and cruel—that, in carrying them out, Mr. Patrick Sellar displayed any trace of the character for sympathy, feeling, and humanity with which his witnesses credited him—we refuse to assent. And the evidence to the contrary need not be sought from MacLeod.

We have only to read the story of the evictions as told by Mr. Thomas Sellar himself. The very dates might have prevented him from writing a book which can bring him only the barren satisfaction of having shown that his father did not break the law.

As to MacLeod's letters—and this is of more importance than the personal question—Mr. Sellar has corrected, but has not discredited, them. They are wild and exaggerated in tone, and must be read as evidence against Highland landlords and factors with care and suspicion; but they bear every sign of being the record of actual recollections. It would be interesting to find out something more about MacLeod than is at present known. The style of the letters makes one curious to know who actually wrote them. Mr. Sellar can tell us nothing, for he comes so fresh to the subject that he never heard of them till last year; and he does not even relate with fairness MacLeod's own account (p. 55 and note). One thing more has to be said about Mr. Sellar's book. He is very free in his accusations of disingenuousness; yet between disingenuousness and the carelessness which leads a writer to misquote his opponents in nearly every instance it is hard to distinguish: see pp. 54 and note, 55 and note, 59 (where in a sentence from Sismondi, to which a wrong reference is given, and which is otherwise misquoted and misinterpreted, a phrase essential to the meaning has been omitted), 70 and note (where the references to the misquotations are misplaced), 76 (evidently quoted from Wallace, not from the original), 87, 91. G. P. MACDONELL.

*The Sonnets of John Milton.* Edited by Mark Pattison. "Parchment Library." (Kegan Paul, Trench & Co.)

It was a happy thought to include in the dainty "Parchment Library" series an edition of Milton's English and Italian sonnets; and it would have been difficult, if not impossible, to find a more capable editor than the Rector of Lincoln College. Mr. Mark Pattison has not only the thorough knowledge of Milton himself which is indispensable to the full elucidation of utterances which are for the most part so intensely personal as these poems, but he has, moreover, that intimate acquaintance with the laws of sonnet construction, and with the requirements and potentialities of one of the most fascinating but most exacting of poetic forms, which is equally demanded by the nature of his task. It is, indeed, difficult to say which pages in this little volume are more interesting to the literary student—those which deal directly with the work of Milton, or those in which the writer for the moment forgets Milton and gives us his contribution to sonnet criticism pure and simple.

Perhaps only those of us who have been drawn to the study of the voluminous literature of the sonnet, and who know how difficult it is to add to it anything which shall be at once fresh and not fantastic, will appreciate to the full the discriminating labour represented by Mr. Pattison's introductory pages; but their learning, their lucidity, and their freedom from dogmatism will be apparent to every reader. It would, perhaps,

be too much to expect that the views expounded should win the universal assent even of those who are unwedded to theories of their own, though Mr. Pattison guards himself from extravagance by so many allowances and reserves that it will be difficult for even the most belligerent critic to find material for a quarrel. I cannot, however, help thinking that there is a certain waste of power in formulating so elaborate a code of sonnet law as Mr. Pattison has provided—there are no fewer than nineteen canons—when the code is supplemented by such frank admissions that the canons are of unequal validity, and when also we have to face the fact that it subjects to outlawry so many English sonnets which are admittedly of the highest rank. To take a single example from among those specially dealt with in this volume, it will be seen that Milton's greatest sonnet, that "On the Late Massacre in Piedmont," violates four out of the nine rules headed "Material," and any legislation would be to some extent discredited by such an act of successful defiance. If, however, Mr. Pattison's laws of form and matter are intended simply as "counsels of perfection"—as embodying an ideal of sonnet structure—there is nothing to complain of; indeed, no lover of the sonnet can fail to be grateful for an analysis which takes sonnet criticism out of the region of personal whim into that of recognised law.

Some interesting pages of the Introduction are devoted to a discussion of possible explanations of Milton's deviation from the Petrarchan model in his general neglect of the lesser pause at the end of the fourth line, and the greater pause at the close of the octave. Mr. Pattison conclusively contends that Milton could not possibly have missed this characteristic of the Petrarchan sonnet, and that he was not likely to abet the anarchists by deliberately ignoring it, but thinks it

"on the whole more probable that Milton's attention was not called with equal emphasis to the subdivision of thought as it was to the invariable arrangement of the rhymes in the Italian masters."

This seems just, for in the Petrarchan sonnet the scheme of rhyme is certainly more obvious than the intellectual structure; and it is possible that with Milton the impulse of thought or passion was at times too strong to be confined within the less keenly apprehended barrier. It is noteworthy that the deviations from perfect Petrarchan orthodoxy are found in those sonnets where the flood of feeling runs strongest (the address "To Cromwell" may serve as one of several examples), and that Milton approaches Petrarch most nearly when the emotion, being less vehement, is more under artistic control. Certain it is that in this matter of intellectual form the sonnet which is, perhaps, the most blameless—"Captain, or colonel, or knight in arms"—is the one which has the most of artifice and the least of spontaneous impulse.

Of the scholarly and interesting notes I can only, in the space allotted me, speak in the most general terms. They are just what such notes should be—always useful, because always elucidatory, and never either trivial or far-fetched. As a matter of course, Mr. Pattison has been largely anticipated by the elaborate annotations to be found in the

*Treasury of English Sonnets*, edited by Mr. David M. Main, whose insight and industry have never yet received their due meed of praise. But there is much that is new; and, where Mr. Pattison fails to notice some interesting parallelism or deleted MS. reading which has been pointed out by his predecessor, the probable reason is his unwillingness to do again what has been well done once. In places where the one thing needful is a knowledge of the relation in which the sonnets stand to the environment of Milton's life and to the total mass of his work in verse and prose, the latest editor easily distances all his competitors; and I feel I am guilty of considerable temerity in venturing to differ from even one of his verdicts. Mr. Pattison is of opinion that the reference, at the close of the Cromwell sonnet, to "the hireling wolves, whose gospel is their maw," is not specially aimed at the Presbyterians, but is merely a general expression "of Milton's abhorrence of payment for spiritual ministrations." Of course this may be so, but the commonly accepted interpretation is certainly the more obvious one. The sonnet was written in opposition to certain "proposals" which represented the views of the Presbyterian party; and it was surely more natural that Milton should concentrate his blows upon the foe of the moment than that he should waste his strength in anything so polemically ineffective as an expression of his broad antipathy to a paid ministry.

Mr. Pattison is clearly right in fixing upon the impressive sincerity of Milton's sonnet work as the peculiar quality which gives to it enduring power and charm. He says truly that

"The effectiveness of Milton's sonnets is chiefly due to the *real* nature of the character, person, or incident of which each is the delineation. Each person, thing, or fact is a moment in Milton's life, on which he was stirred; sometimes in the soul's depths, sometimes on the surface of feeling, but always truly moved. He found the sonnet enslaved to a single theme—that of unsuccessful love, mostly a simulated passion. He emancipated it, and, as Landor says, 'gave the notes to glory.' And what is here felt powerfully, is expressed directly and simply. The affectation of the Elizabethan sonnet, its elaborate artifice, is discarded, and replaced by a manly straightforwardness. It is a man who is speaking to us, not an artist attitudinising to please us."

At a time when, in the field of poetry, the artists are so many and the men so few, we have an additional reason for echoing Wordsworth's exclamation: "Milton! thou should'st be living at this hour. England hath need of thee." J. ASHCROFT NOBLE.

*Life on the Mississippi.* By Mark Twain. (Chatto & Windus.)

THIS pleasantly written and profusely illustrated volume is an English reprint of an American book the first portion of which appeared several years ago. It describes, with all the dry humour and often graphic power of Mr. Clemens, his experiences as an apprentice-pilot on board the great steamers plying between New Orleans and St. Louis in the far-away days to which the Southerner

refers so sadly as "befo' the wah." The second section, which forms a sequel to the first, narrates a visit to the old scenes twenty-one years after the author had left "the river." The result is a singularly interesting work, though probably the earlier chapters will prove of most lasting value, for the later ones are more personal, and often needlessly padded with anecdotes and reminiscences which, however diverting, have a very remote, if any, connexion with the narrative.

The fun in Mr. Clemens' *Tramps Abroad* is frequently forced, and sometimes quite unsuited to the subject in hand. His American experiences have rarely this fault; the writer seems to feel the ground he is treading more secure, and his broad pleasantry is in better keeping with raftsmen, back-woods settlers, and gold-diggers than with monks, mountains, kings, cathedrals, and other sanctities of old-fashioned Europe. The descriptions of the Mississippi, its steam-boat captains, mates, and pilots, the broad-horns and their rough crews, the ague-shaken settlers roosting on fences while the "river was out," and the ways of the great valley of the vast American river as they existed before the war are in his best style. Half-a-century ago, the Mississippi Valley was the favourite field for English tourists; for in times where Concord coaches over corduroy roads were the only means of penetrating the continent, the river and its tributaries, covered with palatial steamers, were among the easiest highways through the centre of the United States, or its then farthest civilised boundaries. Marryat, Mrs. Trollope, Basil Hall—all the little army of literary visitors—have much to say about the Mississippi. Later travellers scarcely ever mention it, for they are so eager to rush West that, except where they catch a glimpse of it and the Missouri on their rapid run for the Rocky Mountains, the Father of Waters is strange to their note-books. The railways, in like manner, ruined the old steam-boating times, and humbled the pride of pilots—whose pride was the pride of kings—and even made the captains and mates regard ordinary passengers as of the same flesh and blood with themselves. The rise, decline, and fall of these potentates is told with admirable effect; and, leaving out of account a little characteristic exaggeration here and there, with minute fidelity. Now and then, an expert in American *facetiæ* will detect a very old friend, disguised for the occasion; but these familiar faces in no way detract from the freshness of a volume which does not contain a dull page.

The book is indeed the best account of social life on the Mississippi with which we are acquainted. But it possesses an additional merit which possibly the author may disclaim—it embodies a clear and, take it all in all, very accurate account of the physical features of the river, its shiftings, and general vagaries. Specialists will, of course, turn to Humphrey and Abbot's stern tomes, or to the Reports of the Commission which is fast making piloting on the Mississippi as prosaic and easy as it is on the Elbe or the Thames; but less exigent people, whose thirst for knowledge is quenched with something less than quartos, may safely take "Mark Twain" for their guide. The illustrations are rough, but graphic; and the book is altogether so good that we regret to

see that the ardour which is lavished in scarlet and gold is unequal to the production of an index.

ROBERT BROWN.

*Bramshill: its History and Architecture.* By Sir W. H. Cope, Bart. (Infield.)

THE ranks of those stately manor-houses which form one of the glories of our land have been sorely thinned of late by the irreparable ravages of fire. Clevedon, Stanford, Ingestre, to name but the most grievous of these disasters, have in rapid succession been destroyed. To students of our national architecture such losses are very serious; and it is earnestly to be hoped that those historic mansions which have as yet escaped the clutches of Moloch and of man may have their features set on record, before it is too late, as faithfully and as skilfully as are those of Bramshill in the pages of this admirable work.

Sir W. Cope, already known as the author of a History of the Rifle Brigade, disclaims, in a modest Preface, any general knowledge of archaeology; but, while prudently availing himself of the assistance of such specialists as Mr. Eyton for Domesday, Col. Chester for genealogy, and especially Mr. Fergusson for architecture, his own minute study of his theme would do credit to any archaeologist.

The two chief points of interest in Bramshill are the tradition that it was built for Henry Prince of Wales, the ill-fated idol of his people; and the instructive adaptation which it presents of a fourteenth-century mansion to the requirements of the Jacobean period. In that critical spirit which is all too rare, Sir W. Cope accepts with caution the tradition about Prince Henry. The chief evidence in its favour is the crowning ornament above the present entrance, which appears to represent the Prince's coronet and feathers. This ornament might, indeed, have suggested the story; but, if it does represent them, it can hardly otherwise be accounted for. Now, though Sir William has his doubts about the feathers, it is a singular fact that this very Prince of Wales is said to have been the first to group the plumes within a circlet, in the way they are here represented, circlet and all. But as to the coronet, on which Sir William would rather rely, it is not, as he imagines, that of a Prince of Wales, for it is not surmounted by the single arch, but by the double one of the Royal crown. This raises a curious question. During the reigns of the first two Stuarts the arches of the Royal crown were themselves doubled. Have we here a proof that the coronet of the heir underwent for the time the same process? It would seem, at least, a plausible hypothesis. We shall see that this tradition is of some importance, for, if true, it will explain much that is obscure in the plan of this remarkable pile.

The original house was erected about 1350 by one of the Foxley family, probably the Constable of Windsor Castle and inspector of the works then proceeding there under William of Wykeham. Sir W. Cope has made the interesting discovery that in the remaining vaults of this earlier house the design is "exactly similar to the vaulting and



piers of the rooms now used as the steward's room and servants' hall at Windsor." Lord Daubeney, the favourite of Henry VII., would seem to have resided here in the early years of the sixteenth century; and Sir William is probably mistaken in his suggestion that, as the Foxley house "is described as a 'lodge' in 1595, the greater part of it was most likely irremediably out of repair if not in ruins" (p. 18). "Lodge" was at this period a term applied to the cottage of the "Palliser" or park-keeper; and, indeed, in this very lease the word is mentioned in conjunction with the park. It could not have been applied to the manor-house of the Foxleys. This latter, in Mr. Fergusson's words, "was built round a court-yard, measuring about one hundred feet by eighty." And he sets before us in a striking passage the problem involved in its conversion:

"The architect attempted to convert an 'inside' house—one surrounding a court—into an outside one—one in which all the windows looked outwards—by pushing back the two subordinate wings till they nearly met. The curious part of the business is why he did not do this completely. . . . Perhaps it was that a new invention is never at once pushed to its logical conclusion. Some superstition may have shrunk from the idea of a house wholly without an internal court. . . . All that can be said is that, on the whole, it is a very tolerably successful transformation, but only as a transition example, that, so far as I know, was never attempted before, nor copied afterwards; but exactly therein lies its exceptional interest."

We have surely here a most suggestive phase in the evolution of the English mansion. The *motte*, with its wooden tower, succeeded by the donjon-keep, was early abandoned, at least in peace, for those dwellings which lined the inner face of that battlemented wall of the base-court which had replaced the stockaded rampart. The central tower soon passed away, the "survival" of a lawless age, but in the base-court there was the germ of the "inside" house—the *domus crenellata*—with the fortified entrance to its court, and its windows looking inwards for security. When, in brighter days, these precautions grew obsolete, a radical change became necessary. But the influence of the old tradition was too strong to be shaken off forthwith. A compromise was hit upon by which the new manor-houses were built round three sides of a demi-court, as if the old model had been cut in half and divided into two separate houses. The projecting wings thus obtained were, from the first, obvious "survivals;" and, as such, they gradually shrivelled up till they shrank into the body of the mansion, from which there then sprang the lateral wings, which secured, at length, an unbroken front.

It would seem, bearing this development in mind, that Mr. Fergusson, though right so far as he went, failed to grasp, in its entirety, the ingenious conception of the architect. The careful researches of Sir W. Cope have revealed the foundations of projecting wings, thrown out from both sides of the north-east and south-west fronts. Now this is precisely what we might expect, for such wings were the essential feature in the style then evolved. It is clear that the architect—Thorpe, it is suggested—resolved to retain the two end, or principal, fronts that

he might utilise them as the bases of separate demi-courts, in accordance with the new style, while he turned the old connecting wings literally inside out, raising their new fronts on the foundations of their former inner walls. The house thus planned would, on its outside lines, have had a length of 260 feet and a breadth of more than 120 feet, and it would, moreover, have presented on each face the recessed front of the Jacobean style.

It is satisfactorily established by Sir W. Cope that the wings on the south-west front were completed, but subsequently destroyed, while those on the opposite side were barely commenced; also, that the old gatehouse on the latter front was to have been utilised for the new entrance, which, however, for some unexplained reason, was eventually placed on the south-west front. We can hardly doubt that, taken in conjunction with the untimely fate of the Prince of Wales, the two facts explain each other. Sir William tells us that

"the death of the Prince at the close of the year 1612—the year Bramshill was completed—renders it certain that it never was his residence."

But Bramshill, in fact, *never was completed*. It is difficult, therefore, to resist the conclusion that building operations were abruptly stopped by the death of the Prince of Wales; and that the architect, not being allowed to complete his north-east front, transferred his entrance to that which had been completed, contenting himself with that graceful tower which he had raised in front of the ancient hall, and which had doubtless been destined to receive in its niches, unfilled to this day, a statue of the youthful prince.

But, while the architectural portion of the work is the most important, the accounts of the famous tapestries designed by Rubens, of the *Troca lawn*, and of "the oak chest"—or, rather, chests, for

"another chest has taken the place of the genuine one in the fancies of house-visitors and the narration of servants, and has now been immortalised as 'the chest' in the pictures of a distinguished photographer"—

are full of interest. Though Sir William propounds an ingenious theory in support of the legend of his chest, he may be reminded that Bramshill is not the only seat which rejoices in a similar heirloom.

Sir William and his friends have sought in vain the meaning of the term "the Chene hanging," which he declares "must remain a mystery." Some wainscot was fashioned after it for Lord Zouche, at Bramshill, in 1615. Now, as "hangings" were then wrought with the badge or crest of the families to whom they belonged, and as Lord Zouche's grandfather had married a Cheney, there can be little doubt that this hanging was so named from being wrought with the well-known Cheney badge.

J. H. ROUND.

*Traditions de la Haute Bretagne.* Par Paul Sébillot. (Paris: Maisonneuve.)

M. SÉBILLOT, who has already published so many Breton popular tales, now produces two neat Elzevirian volumes on the traditions and

general folk-lore of the *pays Gallot*. His legends are for the most part taken down from oral recitations, and when he quotes he is careful to quote good authorities. The first chapter is concerned with traditions about prehistoric monuments, the third with fairies. On the whole, the evidence of this book does not make much, in my opinion, for the theory that the fairies are a fading memory of an early race, Euskarian or what not. Fairies are too constantly found in the folk-lore of races, as Red Indian and Maori, and Indo-Aryan, where there are no Euskarians in the background; and the Breton fairies, though they occasionally live in tumuli, have but a slight and casual connexion with prehistoric monuments. The anecdotes about fairies are so like those current in Scotland and Ireland that we might look for a common Celtic source if the Nereids of modern Greek belief did not appear in similar adventures.

The superstitions about animals are extremely interesting to a mythologist. In all mythologies gods, beasts, and men are much on a level; and, the more early and unpolished the mythology, the more do animals fill the rôles afterwards assigned to men or gods. One may explain this by the fact that savage races nowhere draw a line between animals and men, and the legends conceived by savages remain fixed in the religious traditions of civilised peoples. M. Sébillot's book shows us the Breton peasant still very much in the savage imaginative condition, attributing to animals the power of speech, human intelligence, and miraculous gifts. Consequently, there is nothing strange in the prominent human actions of animals in Breton legend. One curious detail deserves special notice. The moon is, in the myths of very scattered races, mixed up with the rabbit or the hare. In Sanskrit, Prof. Max Müller says, the moon is called *sasanka*—i.e., "having the marks of a hare." In Mexico (*Sahagun*, vii. 2) the moon has also the marks of the hare or rabbit, because one of the gods struck the being who became the moon across the face with the dead body of a hare. The Hot-tentots, on the other hand, make the moon smite the hare on the face with a piece of wood. In Berry a rabbit, shot with an enchanted bullet, cried out, "La lune est morte! la lune est morte!" (Rosquet and George Sand, quoted by Sébillot, ii. 49). Where is the English story of the man who told his wife that he had heard a number of cats cry, "Renaud is dead," whereon his own cat said, "Then I am king of cats," and vanished? M. Sébillot gives the Breton form (ii. 48). Cats talk as freely in Brittany as wild dogs in Australia. M. Sébillot's chapters on the folk-lore of plants and animals are a useful supplement to M. Rolland's large work. His chapters on "Revenants" should be read by the members of the Society for Psychical Research. Here, too, are werewolves in great plenty, and stories of men who have a strange power over herds of wolves.

M. Sébillot's book is most interesting and valuable to the mythologist who does not disdain peasant myths, but holds that they are a degree nearer the earliest surviving myths than the legends of the Olympic or Indo-Aryan creeds.

A. LANG.

## NEW NOVELS.

*Tyrants of To-Day.* By C. L. Johnstone. In 3 vols. (Tinsley Bros.)

*By the Gate of the Sea.* By D. C. Murray. In 2 vols. (Chatto & Windus.)

*A Fallen Foe.* By Katharine King. In 3 vols. (Hurst & Blackett.)

*Estcourt.* By Lord James Douglas. (Bentley.)

*A Misguidit Lassie.* By Percy Ross. (Macmillan.)

*Tyrants of To-Day* is a curious book, not less curious because its author has "put a name" to his authorship of some other curious books which were themselves, if we mistake not, published anonymously. The subject of these for the most part was Russia and Russian Nihilism. The subject of *Tyrants of To-Day* is rather European anarchism and its secret societies in general. The book is a novel only in form. A few personages, somewhat of the lay-figure character—the orphan daughter of a French colonel, who, after an honourable but humdrum existence, marries a Scotch colonel; the unacknowledged son of a German prince, who falls into the toils of the secret societies, is all but assassinated for failing to carry out their behests, and finally dies of wounds received at Sedan; an arch agitator, Herr Rindt, who may or may not be intended for a portrait; and two or three "supers"—make up the *dramatis personae*. But it would hardly seem that the author has intended to arouse much interest in his characters as such. They are chiefly instruments for the exhibition of the tyranny of secret societies, which is shown with some knowledge, but not in any very striking or novel fashion. Prince Saxe, or somebody else, makes the not improbable assertion that the agents of the societies are always on the watch for unsuccessful students at the German universities. Happy England! Who ever heard of a Nihilist seizing the moment when an Oxford undergraduate was bewailing the testamur that is not, or gnashing his teeth at the greater woe of an honorary fourth?

Mr. David Christie Murray (who seems to be writing with a rather dangerous rapidity) has produced in *By the Gate of the Sea* a rather slighter book than those which he usually turns out. He tells us, indeed, unless we have misunderstood the passage, that he meant it to be slight, and rather a study of certain phases of human self-torment than a complete picture. We are inclined to think that as such it is rather out of proportion. It is too long for a mere study, and not long enough for a finished picture. There is, however, not a little merit in the conception of the chief figure, Arthur Tregarthen, a cross-grained and crotchety person of honour and virtue, who wrecks his worldly prospects by a piece of quixotic chivalry, ruins his happiness by suspecting his wife without due enquiry, and finally ends in a kind of lethargy of solitude and fantastic study. The companion sketch of the wife, who aids in making her husband and herself miserable, first by unnecessary concealment, and then by needless refusal to explain, is perhaps less good because the nature of the subject is less clearly brought

out. We see why Tregarthen did as he did clearly enough; not so clearly why his wife did as she did. The chief of the minor characters, a conceited but amiable bard, though a tolerably hackneyed personage, is treated with some humour; and the whole book is pleasantly written.

There was a time when better work might have been expected from the author of *The Queen of the Regiment* than *A Fallen Foe*. The faults of the book do not lie merely in the author's abuse of the privileges of ignorance which are allowed to lady novelists, though this abuse is sufficiently glaring. That the lawsuit between Alan Loftus and his cousin, Lady Guinevere Penryn, is conducted in a manner and with results wholly unintelligible is perhaps less surprising than that Lady Guinevere, being a ward in Chancery, "the Chancellor" is introduced as Sir Richard Baines. Miss King, in her distribution of honours, is perhaps guided by a remembrance of her school-days to the effect that Sir Thomas More once held that responsible and dignified office. Another of the characters appears alternately as Lady Goldhawk and Lady Grace Goldhawk. However, a reviewer who objects to such trifles as these must be either a tyro or else a martinet. If Miss King had written an interesting book we should have allowed her, with only gentle upbraiding, to call the Archbishop of Canterbury the Rev. Mr. Benson. But it is not an interesting book. The heroine might pass if there were something more about her. But the hero, Alan Loftus, is an ill-conditioned and ill-mannered person whose ill-conditions and ill-manners are not displayed with any art; the story languishes and fails to attract the reader, and none of the minor characters redeem the defects of their majors.

Lord James Douglas' novel is one of which, while it is not very easy to say much definite good, there is no reason whatever to say any harm. The author would appear to have taken the late Major Whyte Melville for his pattern, and he very certainly might have taken a worse. There is much betting and racing, a little hunting, a duel, and a good deal of fighting in the war of 1870. The book is by no means badly written; and the story, though it has no great complexity nor any very definite plot, moves easily enough and takes the reader very fairly with it.

We are unable to discern why Mr. Ross should have called his book *A Misguidit Lassie*. The father of Antoinette Raynor, who is the heroine and presumably plays the title-part, certainly has a deer-forest in Inverness-shire; but we are expressly told that Antoinette has no Scotch blood in her, and on the whole, we venture to suggest, as preferable, *A Vulgar Girl*. This would be strictly descriptive and very accurate. Miss Raynor exceeds in unladylikeness most young women whom we have met in fiction and (we are happy to say) all young women whom we have met in life. Nor is she in the least an amusing hoyden. She thinks it funny, after disturbing the sport of an unhappy Scotch laird whom she has never seen before, and making the very feeble joke that he may fine her five shillings for trespass, to present him

the next time they meet with a bag containing that sum in halfpence. She treats a German lover of hers, who is himself harmless, though foolish, and who receives the readers' warmest compassion, very much as a lively housemaid would treat, or may be supposed likely to treat, an amorous footman; and she informs a luckless young lady, almost a stranger, who happens to be her guest, that, "if she does not sit down, she will knock her down." This will perhaps be enough for Mr. Ross's heroine. For Mr. Ross, it is probably sufficient to say that he seems to think a "son of Anak" in some way synonymous for a sportsman, that his humour lies in such things as calling one of his personages the Honourable Mr. Timoncroesus, and that he introduces one of the most tolerable of his characters—a young lady represented as familiar with the best modern society—as saying "Good afternoon, Miss Raynor; I was so anxious to make your acquaintance that I put off the many and various duties that attend ladies on their arrival to spend the autumn in the wilds." And so the story leaves to speak of Mr. Ross and his book.

GEORGE SAINTSBURY.

## CURRENT LITERATURE.

*About Yorkshire.* By Katharine and Thomas Macquoid. (Chatto and Windus.) Numberless as are the books which have been recently written on Yorkshire, there is yet room for this one to treat with graceful style and much appreciation of natural beauty the chief abbeys and picturesque castles of that great county. It cannot be cited as a guide-book, for it is not by any means exhaustive. For variety of scenery and architecture no other county can be compared with Yorkshire. A pedestrian always returns to it with the more eagerness after every raid that he has made among its dales. This is exactly the book which such a one will value, enabling him in after-years to refresh his recollections of historic or romantic spots, and aid memory with the bold, characteristic woodcuts drawn by Mr. T. Macquoid. And if anyone be so unfortunate as to be ignorant of the riches of Yorkshire both in mediæval remains and picturesque scenery, no better book could be put into his hands to "insense" him, as the natives say, with a longing to see their county. The authors travelled leisurely, turning off here and there, as the fancy took them, from the beaten track, and not alarmed at the great extent of wild country which stretches away to the lake mountains in the north-west corner of the county. Few people ever find their way to Bolton Castle, but it is well described in these pages and figured in one of the best drawings of the book, which preserves its massive grandeur while suggesting the stormy skies and widespread moors which surround it. Perhaps sufficient justice is scarcely done to the apartments of Queen Mary here, where the visitor can still realise in all its vividness the episode of Christopher Norton, so graphically related by Froude, inasmuch as the rooms yet remain much as when the Queen left them. Mrs. Macquoid dwells upon the minute accuracy with which Scott, in "Rokeby," paints the wild-flowers of the district. It is upon record that he carefully gathered and made notes of them. Mr. Henderson has forestalled the authors in the curious legend connected with the Hand of Glory at Stanmore. All who know Selby church will agree with their remarks on its neglected state, and will long to see it more reverently cared for. The graceful ruins of Kirk-



stall, near smoky Leeds, are artistically depicted; and we are glad to see due homage paid to Whithy, one of the most picturesque towns in the kingdom. Some of the peeps at "becks" and "forces," with their wealth of ferns and greenery, show what unexpected pleasures are in store for those who are planning a holiday ramble in Yorkshire. Easby and Jervaux, Fountains and Rievaulx, are daintily sketched both with pen and pencil. *About Yorkshire* is a charming book for every lover of the nooks and corners of England.

*An American Four-in-Hand in Britain.* By Andrew Carnegie. (Sampson Low.) We are thankful to the English publishers for giving us the opportunity of reading this book, which ought to be taken advantage of by all who relish good nature and native shrewdness. No other phrase will characterise Mr. Andrew Carnegie than that he is a "jolly good fellow." Born at Dunfermline, he emigrated to America as a boy, and seems to have made his fortune rapidly as an ironmaster in Pennsylvania. He comes back to England and to Scotland as an ardent republican, though with no unkind feelings towards the inhabitants of the old country. His trip in a four-in-hand from Brighton to Inverness, which attracted some notice at the time, forms the subject of the present book. But the real interest of it consists not so much in the scenes visited as in the character of the writer. We have here a genuine American, none the less genuine because not native born, describing England, not with the literary pen of a Washington Irving, or a Hawthorne, or even a Burroughs, but as it appears to a plain business man from the other side of the Atlantic. It is pleasant to know that those like us most who know us best. But it is yet more pleasant to read of the enjoyment Mr. Carnegie himself derived from his tour, and of the high spirits displayed by all of his party. Such a sustained course of joviality is rare to meet with in these days, and still more rare to read about. "Laughter holding both its sides" is contagious; and we owe it to Mr. Carnegie to say that we have derived more enjoyment from his straightforward pages than from many books of far higher literary pretensions. Let our readers get the volume and try.

*Nature near London.* By Richard Jefferies. (Chatto and Windus.) Mr. Jefferies' fame is well established, as may be inferred from the fact that the public has readily taken some nine volumes from him within a considerably less number of years. No one will grudge him the success due to an inventor in popular literature. But he must beware of over-stocking his market. His present book, though it might have sufficed to make the reputation of another writer, is a variation upon its predecessors rather than an advance. We trust that the ordinary Londoner is not so altogether ignorant of his surroundings as to require to be taught that he can find wild nature within twelve miles of Charing Cross. Yet both Mr. Jefferies and the editor of the newspaper in which these sketches first appeared doubtless know their public. To those, then, who have not yet discovered the rural delights that are to be got by a short walk from town this volume will be a revelation. Needless to add that as Mr. Jefferies has a keen eye, so also has he a ready pen. The combination of these two gifts constitutes his real claim to popularity. That he can sometimes presume upon his audience the following passage will show (p. 125):—

"By the roadside I thought I saw something red under the long grass of the mound, and, parting the blades, found half-a-dozen wild strawberries. They were larger than usual, and just ripe. The wild strawberry is a little more acid than the cultivated, and has more flavour than would be supposed from its small size."

*Sandringham, Past and Present.* With Some Historic Memorials of the Norfolk Coast. By Mrs. Herbert Jones. (Sampson Low.) Mrs. Jones has taken advantage of what she calls the present "Royal" associations of Sandringham to compile a gossipy book about the history of the coast of Norfolk. Sandringham itself introduces Anthony Woodville, second Earl Rivers, Peter Anthony Motteux, the translator of Rabelais, and the Countess D'Orsay, perhaps better known as Lady Harriet Cowper. In the later chapters we have Isabella of France (Queen of Edward II.), Sir Cloudeley Shovell, Sir Edward Coke, and no less a Norfolk worthy than Pocahontas. Out of such materials it was not difficult to make a book. And we must do the authoress the justice of saying that she has shown not only a sound knowledge of authorities, but the yet rarer merit of discretion in using them. If it were not for a certain exuberance of diction—most conspicuous, and perhaps most excusable, in the chapter on Nelson—we should have nothing but praise to give this book. It is handsomely got up, and contains an *intaglio* of Nelson which is said to have been never before published.

*In the Country: Essays.* By the Rev. M. G. Watkins. (Satchell.) We have delayed too long our notice of this book, but now hasten to make amends by saying that nobody can take a more pleasant companion with him on his summer holidays. Mr. Watkins does not attempt to conjure with any novel charm. We do him no wrong when we say that his manner recalls to us some of the *Prose Idylls* of Charles Kingsley. He loves Devon and Scotland, fishing in river and sea, old ballads and the yet older poets of Rome and Greece. Where all are uniformly good, we have ourselves been most attracted by the paper on "Ottery St. Mary"—a corner of England most grateful in itself, and rich in memories of Raleigh and Coleridge.

*Lancashire Gleanings.* By William E. A. Axon. (Manchester: Tubbs, Brook and Chrystal; London: Simpkin, Marshall and Co.) Mr. Axon must be well known to many of the readers of the ACADEMY as an industrious student in the byways of history. Manchester can boast not a few antiquaries and bibliographers; but we doubt if it has any by whom its many libraries have been more diligently ransacked. In this volume, which is handsomely printed and furnished with a copious Index, Mr. Axon has collected forty odd papers, linked together by some association with the county of Lancashire. Such a book scarcely affords occasion for criticism. Most of the papers are very short, and the interest of all is chiefly local. But, as an example of good work in a department where the materials are almost unlimited, we can heartily recommend *Lancashire Gleanings* both as pleasant reading in itself and as worthy of imitation by others.

*Winter Sunshine.* By John Burroughs. (Edinburgh: David Douglas.) This is, we believe, one of the series of "authors' editions" of contemporary American literature that Mr. Douglas is publishing, though it comes to us in a different binding. The title is the title of the first chapter only, and by no means appropriate to the whole book. This naturally divides into two parts, the first dealing with country life in New York, the second describing a visit to England. Though we cannot claim to be fully qualified to judge, we must confess to having found more interest in the first half. Like Mr. George Cable, whose *Old Creole Days* was recently noticed in the ACADEMY, Mr. Burroughs is at any rate a genuine American, and has something fresh to tell to the English reader. It is enough to point to his account of the local method of hunting foxes, which we forbear to reveal. Whether Mr. Burroughs

deserves the name of a second Thoreau, may, however, be doubted. When a foreign writer (and for the present purpose he is a foreigner) has thus won our confidence, it is pleasing to find that, when he turns his criticism upon ourselves, we come out of the ordeal so well. Mr. Burroughs is nothing if not truthful; but it is hard to believe that in London he found

"no loudness, brazenness, impertinence; no oaths, no swaggering, no leering at women, no irreverence, no flippancy, no bullying, no insolence of porters, or clerks, or conductors, no importunity of boot-blacks or newsboys, no omnivorousness of hackmen. . . . Street cries of all kinds are less noticeable, less aggressive, than in this country."

If indeed all this be true, we shall die contented without having seen, or rather heard, New York. Yet we should like to eat a pocketful of apples there with Mr. Burroughs.

THE Rev. J. Cave-Browne, Vicar of Detling, near Maidstone, has just issued an interesting Supplement to his *History of Lambeth Palace*, which has recently passed into a second edition. In his new volume, of less than one hundred pages, Mr. Cave-Browne deals with "Mediæval Life among the Old Palaces of the Primacy," and gives a clear and accurate summary of the history of the possessions of the See of Canterbury. Commencing, of course, with Canterbury Palace, the author traces the histories of the following archiepiscopal palaces and manor-houses:—Lyminge, Saltwood, Aldington or Allington, Charing, Wrotham, Wingham, Maidstone, Otford, Ford, Knole, Tenham, Gillingham, Bishopsbourne, Bekesbourne or Levingsbourne, Slyndon, Mayfield, Mortlake, and Croydon. Messrs. Blackwood and Sons are the publishers.

THE last addition to the "Thorough Guide" series, founded and edited by Mr. Baddeley and published by Dulau, is *The Eastern Counties*, by Mr. C. S. Ward. Having made use of Mr. Ward as a companion in Devon and Cornwall, we are prepared to trust to his guidance in a new field. He knows at first-hand what he writes about, and possesses the supreme gift of avoiding idle padding. The present volume is a small one; but we venture to say that it contains everything that will be wanted by the ordinary tourist. The maps are all they should be; so is the Index; only we could have spared from our knapsack the twenty odd pages of advertisements at the end. The time-tables of the G. E. R. at the beginning need no excuse.

#### NOTES AND NEWS.

PERHAPS the handsomest book that has issued from an English press in recent years is the *Life of Don John of Austria*, on which the late Sir W. Stirling Maxwell spared no labour of research, and his representatives have spared no expense. It appears in two folio volumes, in an edition of only 115 copies, at the price of twenty-five guineas. That such a book should be published in such a style is not inappropriate; but the general public will be glad to hear that another edition may shortly be expected in a more accessible form.

DR. RICHARD MORRIS hopes to finish his edition of the *Cursor Mundi* for the Early-English Text Society next year. The completions of the *Merlin* and *Holy Grail* Romances will wait for Prof. Gaston Paris's Introduction to his edition of Mr. Alfred Huth's unique MS. of *Merlin* for the Old-French Text Society.

We hear that Signora Linda Villari, wife of the historian, and herself known to the English public by her novel *In Change Unchanged*, published by Messrs. Macmillan some years ago, has completed a new novel called *Camilla's Girlhood*.

MR. R. B. ARMSTRONG hopes to issue in

November part i. of his History of Liddesdale, Eskdale, Ewesdale, Wauchopdale, and the Debateable Land, from the twelfth century to 1530. The Appendix to this volume contains seventy documents, arranged in chronological order down to 1566. The selection has been made from private charter-chests, MS. collections in London and Edinburgh, and rare printed works. It comprises charters, rent-rolls, excerpts from accounts of the Lord High Treasurer, bonds of manrent, bonds for re-entry of prisoners, lists of Scottish borderers under English assurance, interesting letters, and a military report on the West March of Scotland and Liddesdale by an English official. The work will be handsomely illustrated with facsimiles of the curious and interesting drawings in water-colour of Cardoness Tower, Kirkcudbright, Carlaverock Castle, and Annan. Beside these chromo-lithographs, there will be a plate of arms of the Lords of Liddesdale, another of the clans of the district, the arms of Lindsay of Wauchope, and the seals of John Armstrong and William Elliot. The smaller illustrations give representations of towers, ecclesiastical remains, sculptured remains, monumental slabs, crosses, &c. The edition will be limited to 275 copies quarto and 105 copies on large paper.

THE third volume of the *Old Testament Commentary for English Readers*, edited by the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, including the books of the Old Testament from 1 Kings to Esther, and containing contributions by Canon Barry, the Rev. C. J. Ball, the Rev. W. B. Pope, and the Rev. R. Sinker, will be published early in August by Messrs. Cassell and Co.

MESSRS. CHATTO AND WINDUS will in the future be the publishers of Mr. Edward Walford's series of annual shilling books, the *Peerage*, *Baronetage*, *Knightage*, and *House of Commons*, of which new editions are nearly ready; and also the *Handbook of the Charities of London* of Mr. Herbert Fry.

MESSRS. WILSON AND M'CORMICK, of Glasgow, will publish next week a new novel called *Inchbracken*, a study of Scottish provincial life in the Disruption times, which we understand is written by Mr. Robert Cleland.

THE next number of the *Antiquarian Magazine* will give a facsimile of Lord Nelson's last frank, addressed to Lady Hamilton from sea after he left Portsmouth, a week or two before his death at Trafalgar.

THE August number of the *National Review* will contain an article on "The Scientific Novel and Gustave Flaubert," by Mr. Hugh E. Egerton, and "A Defence of Sport," by Mr. Richard Jefferies.

TO the August issue of *Merry England* Mrs. Lynn Linton will contribute an article on "Scandal." The frontispiece will be an etching of the Royal Courts of Justice by Mr. Tristram Ellis.

MR. J. POTTER BRISCOE'S *Curiosities of the Belfry* is now in the hands of the binders, and will be issued to subscribers shortly. The same author's *Stories about the Midlands* will be published next month.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Literary World* (Boston, U.S.) draws attention to the following, as throwing light upon the title chosen by Mr. Browning for his last volume. In the biographical sketch appended to "Paracelsus" is a foot-note (*Poetical Works*, 1868, vol. i., p. 197)—"A standing High-Dutch joke in those days . . . as may be seen by referring to such rubbish as Melander's *Jocoseria*, &c." While we are upon the subject of the name, we may as well record that the article on this very jest-book in the February number of *Blackwood*, which attracted so much attention not only for its opportuneness, but also for its intrinsic

merit, was written by the Rev. Dr. J. Dowden, of Edinburgh.

THE public library of Mauchline, the little Ayrshire town so closely associated with the name of Burns, was until last week without a copy of his poems. This omission has now been remedied, and it is proposed to establish a "poets' corner" in the library.

THE fourth edition of the Hebrew translation of the New Testament by Prof. Delitzsch, consisting of 5,000 copies, having been exhausted in little more than a year, a fifth edition has just made its appearance. The text is substantially that of the preceding edition; but it has been throughout carefully revised by its indefatigable editor. In connexion with it Prof. Delitzsch has also published (in English) a little brochure entitled *The Hebrew New Testament of the British and Foreign Bible Society: a Contribution to Hebrew Philology* (Leipzig: Dörfling and Franke), illustrating the difficulties encountered by him in his work of translation, and indicating the grounds which led him, in particular cases, to the renderings which he ultimately adopted. For the Hebrew student, we may remark, this version of the New Testament is of extreme value, both philologically and exegetically; and the brochure to which we have referred may be regarded in the light of an introduction calling attention to some of its more prominent features.

AMONG French announcements we notice the following:—A posthumous work on M. Victor Hugo by Paul de Saint-Victor, edited by his daughter; *Souvenirs of Lamartine*, by M. Ch. Alexandre, his friend and private secretary; a book about Gambetta, by M. Coquelin *ainé*; and a prose translation of Shelley's "Cenci," by M<sup>me</sup>. Dorian, with an Introduction (written in French) by Mr. Swinburne.

OUR readers will learn with pleasure that Señor Miquel y Sampère, the editor of the long interrupted *Revista de Ciencias Históricas* of Barcelona, will shortly revive it, so far at least as to bring to a conclusion the works already commenced therein.

CORRECTION.—In the ACADEMY of last week, by a palpable blunder, next year was called the 400th anniversary of Wyclif's death. This should of course have been "500th." Wyclif died in 1384.

#### AMERICAN JOTTINGS.

MESSRS. HOUGHTON, MIFFLIN AND Co., of Boston, will publish in the autumn a complete edition of the works of the late William H. Seward, in five volumes. Four of these appeared thirty years ago, and have been long out of print. The fifth volume, which is entirely new, will be entitled "A Diplomatic History of the War."

MESSRS. ROBERTS BROS., of Boston, announce illustrated editions of the following:—Gray's "Elegy," with thirty designs by Mr. Harry Fenn, mostly sketches taken at Stoke Pogis; Miss Jean Ingelow's "High Tide;" Card Newman's "Lead, Kindly Light;" and Lord Houghton's "Good Night and Good Morning," with illuminations and etchings by Mr. Walter Severn.

THE New York *Tribune* is printing as a *feuilleton* a new novel by Mr. Edgar Fawcett, entitled "An Ambitious Woman."

IN the many universities (or colleges) of the United States the religious difficulty is avoided for the most part by making the foundations frankly denominational. But a similar subject for dispute seems to be provided by political economy. Most of the professors of this subject are free-traders, as might be anticipated. The professor at Cornell is a free-trader; but a

second teacher has recently been appointed, with the subordinate title of "lecturer," to present the protectionist view. At Williams College, in Massachusetts, where the professor is also a free-trader, fourteen graduates have signed a protest against the tendency of his teaching, and more especially against the acceptance by the college of a political economy prize offered by the Cobden Club. The governing body again propose to evade the difficulty by establishing an alternative course of protectionist lectures.

THE *Critic* of July 14 is an especially good number, unless we are unduly prejudiced by the return to the original practice of signing all the longer articles. Prof. W. D. Whitney reviews Dr. Abel's *Ilchester Lectures*, and Mr. Hjalmar H. Boyesen the English translation of Düntzer's *Life of Schiller*. Mr. John Burroughs returns to the subject of "Emerson and Carlyle," with a leaning in favour of the latter that we should not have anticipated. Mr. Charles G. Leland writes a notice of the late Prof. E. H. Palmer, which ends with these words:—

"He was generous to a fault, and surpassed all men whom I have ever known in hiding his sorrows from his greatest intimates, and in sharing his joys with all."

#### EPIGRAMS.

LVI.

"How weak are words—to carry thoughts like mine!"

Smith each dull dangler round the much-bored Nine.

Yet words sufficed for Shakspeare's suit when he Wooded Time, and won instead Eternity.

LVII.

This waking life, a solid-seeming shore,  
The immaterial tides of slumber lave;  
And dreams are phantom ships, careering o'er  
That shallow counterfeit of death's deep wave.

LVIII.

*An Alleged Characteristic of Goethe.*

'Tis writ, O Dogs, that Goethe hated you.  
I doubt:—for was not he a poet true?  
True poets but transcendent lovers be,  
And one great love-confession poesy.

LIX.

*Switzerland: Dawn and Evening.*

She looks o'er cowering lands from her wan throne,  
And beckons the far morn to hasten nigher.  
Aloft on brows of silver silence lone  
She wears the sunset for a golden tiar.

LX.

*Suggested by a Rock, having the Likeness of Immense Human Features.*

The sea-fowls build in wrinkles of thy face,  
Giant that mark'st nor them nor Time nor me.  
Kings fall, gods die, worlds crash;—at thy throne's base  
In showers of bright white thunder breaks the sea.

W. W.

#### MAGAZINES AND REVIEWS.

THE *July Livre* opens with a notice, by Mr. Ashbee, of the Index Society, which is naturally of more interest to French than to English readers. But a really important paper on some unpublished correspondence of the Bonapartes follows, and the third article of the original portion also deserves mention. This is a notice (with a facsimile) of a somewhat *gaulois* fragment of poetry in the handwriting of Racine. The writer, M. Achille Duvaux, thinks that it is authentically the poet's. We do not know any reason, so far as subject goes, why it



should not be the work of his unregenerate days; but in style it seems to us as unlike him as "L'Occasion Perdue et Recouvrée" is unlike Corneille.

THE *Revue historique* for July has the beginning of a study by M. Fustel de Coulanges on "L'Immunité mérovingienne." M. de Coulanges makes a careful investigation into the exact meaning of early grants of immunities, with a view of tracing the origin of local jurisdictions. M. Dardier calls attention to a little-recognised historian, "Jean de Serres," 1540-98. He examines the sources of de Serres' information and the value of his writings for the history of the religious wars in France. M. de La Blanchère publishes a series of documents from the archives of Montefortino, which has recently changed its name to Ardena de' Volschi. These interesting documents tell the story of the destruction of Montefortino in 1557 by the orders of Pope Paul IV. It is a vivid contribution to the history of the Papal States.

IN the *Nuova Antologia* for July 1 Prof. Villari writes on "Thomas Henry Buckle," whom he treats with much appreciation. Sig. Boglietti, in a paper on "Ugo Bassville at Rome," gathers together the facts relating to the life of a man who would be forgotten if it were not for Monte's poem "Bassvilliana," in which the poet recants his first passing sympathy for the ideas of the French Revolution.

AN excellent lecture on Feudalism, by Don Manuel Pedregal, is reported in the *Revista Contemporanea* of June 15. He deduces its origin mainly from Roman sources, considers it superior to all systems which had preceded it, and shows that it was more widely spread in Spain than is usually supposed. A paper on "Grammatical Studies," by F. F. Iparraguirre, proposes a new method of classification by suffixes and affixes, but fails in not noticing their historical development in each idiom. Two short pseudonymous articles in the numbers for June, called "Yankee Sketches," are the most severe strictures on society in the United States that we have seen. There is said to be no affection in the family life of any class, and no culture; education is valued simply as a means of more quickly gaining wealth. Vicente Tinajero concludes his admirable "Moallakas" with a general review of Arabic poetry of the era of Mahomet. A lecture on "The General Idea of Organisms," by Señor Maestre de San-Juan, deals mainly with the transformations of life from vegetable to animal.

#### NOTES FROM MELBOURNE.

Melbourne: June 4, 1883.

THE University of Melbourne has received a handsome bequest from a rich Western district squatter named Wysealskie—a Swiss brought up in Scotland. He has left to that university £12,000 for bursaries, £20,000 to endow professorships of divinity in connexion with Ormond College, and £10,000 to the college itself. He has likewise left a large sum to the Ladies' Presbyterian College and to the parish in Scotland where he was brought up.

The enterprising Melbourne student, Mr. George Ernest Morrison, who lately walked across Australia from Normanton to Melbourne alone and unarmed, has now taken his departure on an exploring expedition to New Guinea. He has been there once already; and he describes the climate of the interior, so far as he penetrated, as most agreeable and salubrious, owing to the height of the tableland, which seems to form the interior, above the sea. He intends to collect specimens of the dialects spoken in the island.

#### SELECTED FOREIGN BOOKS.

##### GENERAL LITERATURE.

- CATALOGUE des Alsatica de la Bibliothèque de Oscar Berger-Levrault. Paris: Berger-Levrault. 5 fr.  
D'HÉRICAUT, Ch. Rose de Noël. Paris: Didier. 3 fr.  
GHEYN, J. van den. Cerbere: Etude de Mythologie comparée. Paris: Leroux. 2 fr.  
LANDES. Notes sur les Mœurs et Superstitions populaires des Annamites. 2. Mariages. Paris: Leroux. 2 fr.  
PFLUGK-HARTUNG, J. v. Iter Italicum. 1. Abth. Stuttgart: Kohlhammer. 9 M.  
ROESIGER, A. Neu-Hengstett, Geschichte u. Sprache e. Waldenser-Colonie in Württemberg. Greifswald: Abel. 1 M. 50 Pf.  
RUSSLAND, das, der Gegenwart u. Zukunft. Politische u. nationalökonomische Skizzen. Leipzig: F. Duncker. 5 M.

##### THEOLOGY.

- HURTER, H. Nomenclator literarius recentioris theologie catholice, theologos exhibens, qui inde a concilio Tridentino floruerunt, setate, natione, disciplinis distinctos. Tom. 3. Fasc. 1 et 2. Innsbruck: Wagner. 7 M. 20 Pf.

##### HISTORY.

- CHASTENET, Jacques de, Seigneur de Puységur. Les Guerres du Règne de Louis XIII et de la Minorité de Louis XIV, p. p. Ph. Tamizey de Larroque. Paris: Palmé. 6 fr.  
FINOT, J. La Jacquerie et l'Affranchissement des Paysans de la Terre de Fauconney en 1412. Paris: Larose. 2 fr. 50 c.  
GIOJA, G. Memorie storiche e Documenti sopra Lao, Laino, Sibari, Tebe, Lucana, della Magna Grecia Città antichissime. Napoli: Detken & Rocholl. 3 fr.  
HARRIS, H. Les Corte Réal et leurs Voyages au Nouveau Monde. Paris: Leroux. 40 fr.  
MARTENS, F. de. Recueil des Traités et Conventions conclus par la Russie avec les Puissances étrangères. T. VI. Traités avec l'Allemagne 1703-1808. St. Petersburg: Devrient. 10 fr.  
MAYERHOEFER, A. Die Brücken im alten Rom. Ein Beitrag zur röm. Topographie. Erlangen: Deichert. 1 M.  
MEIER, M. N. E., u. G. F. SCHOEMANN. Der attische Process. Neu bearb. v. J. H. Lipsius. 1. Bd. Berlin: Calvary. 7 M.

##### PHYSICAL SCIENCE AND PHILOSOPHY.

- MEYER, W. F. Apolarität u. rationale Curven. Tübingen: Fues. 12 M.  
MUELLER, O. Die Zellhaut u. das Gesetz der Zelltheilungsfolge v. Melosira Arenaria Moore. Berlin: Borntraeger. 4 M.  
PUBLICATION d. königl. preuss. geodätischen Institutes. Astronomisch-geodätische Arbeiten in den Jahren 1881 u. 1882. Berlin: Friedberg. 15 M.  
SELENKA, E. Studien ab. Entwicklungsgeschichte der Thiere. 1. Hft. Keimbälter u. Primitivorgane der Maus. Wiesbaden: Kriegl. 12 M.  
URBAN, J. Monographie der Familie der Turneraceen. Berlin: Borntraeger. 4 M. 50 Pf.  
WEISMANN, A. Die Entstehung der Sexualzellen bei den Hydromedusen. Jena: Fischer. 66 M.

##### PHILOLOGY.

- BARTH, A. L'Inscription sanscrite de Han Chey. Paris: Leroux. 1 fr. 50 c.  
GOETZ, G. De compositione Poenuli Plantinae commentariolum. Jena: Neuenhahn. 50 Pf.  
GUTTMANN, C. De earum quae vocantur Caesarianae orationum Tullianarum genere dicendi. Jena: Pohle. 1 M. 20 Pf.  
KELLER, O. Der sarnische Vers als rhythmisch Erwiesen. Leipzig: Freytag. 1 M. 50 Pf.  
KUKULA, K. De tribus pseudacronianorum scholiorum recensionibus. Wien: Koenig. 1 M.  
PAUCKER, C. v. Materialien zur lateinischen Wortbildungsgeschichte. V. Die Adjectiva auf -iculus. 1 M. 20 Pf. Kleinere Studien. Lexikalisches u. Syntaktisches. I. 1 M. 50 Pf. Supplementum lexicorum latinorum. Fasc. III. Berlin: Calvary.  
SCHWEISSTAL, M. Remarques sur le Rôle de l'Élément franc dans la formation de la Langue française. Paris: Leroux. 2 fr.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### THE FALL OF THE DUKE OF ALBANY.

Bamf: July 20, 1883.

Scottish historians, from Buchanan to Hill Burton, appear to have agreed in telling the world that, on March 21, 1425, James I. arrested in Parliament at Perth, not only the ex-Regent, Murdoch Duke of Albany, with his second son, Alexander, his secretary, Allan Otterburn, and Sir John Montgomery, but also a supposed batch of at least twenty-two others, including the Earls of Douglas, Angus, and March and representatives of most of the leading families in Scotland. The list includes the names of the Constable of Dundee, the Sheriff of Angus, and, in fact, all the territorial magnates of that district. The fact is that the list in question is

that of the gentlemen knighted by James at Scone, in the previous year, on his coronation-day. The mistake of supposing that these men were arrested at Perth has arisen from taking a parenthesis in the *Scotchchronicon* for part of the text:—

"Et in die nono parlamenti rex arrestari fecit dominum Murdacum ducem Albanie ac etiam dominum Alexandrum filium juniorem ejusdem quem die coronationis suae praecinxit in militem cum vigniti sex aliis videlicet Archibaldum tertium comitem de Douglas,"

and so on. Having given the list of those knighted at the coronation, which he had not given before, the writer reverts to the arrests, and goes on, "Quo etiam die arrestavit dominum Johannem de Montgomery et Alanum de Otterburn," &c. He then tells us what befell the four men arrested, but not a word does he say of any trial or liberation of the men included in the parenthetical list (*Scotchchronicon*, ii. 482, ed. Goodall).

In the *Liber Pluscardensis*, 370, 371, and the *Extracta e Variis Cronicis Scotie*, 227, 228, the facts are given without ambiguity. The names of the gentlemen knighted—the same list as that in the *Scotchchronicon*—are given in the proper place under the coronation. The men arrested in 1425 are given as the four above-named.

Of the men thus supposed to have been arrested, I may notice that one was killed on May 3 following, fighting for King James against some of Albany's faction. Another, Sir Walter Ogilvy of Lintrather, was all the time treasurer of the King's household (*Exchequer Rolls of Scotland*, iv. 379). J. H. RAMSAY.

#### SOME GATHERINGS FOR THE "BIBLIOTHECA PISCATORIA."

London: July 21, 1883.

Few, if any, are so well aware as Mr. Westwood and Mr. Satchell that in all probability some appropriate matter, though slight it may be, still remains unrecorded in the *Bibliotheca Piscatoria*. In the preliminary announcement prefixed to their recent Catalogue—a work that has received and that merits nothing but praise—we are asked for assistance in the shape of corrections and additions to be used in the preparation of supplemental lists. Notwithstanding this request, I imagine there are some who, like myself, feel that there can be so little, comparatively speaking, to add to what has already been told that it is hardly worth while glancing over one's shelves in search of new matter. But, bitten by the love of collecting, and then, when a wet day comes, reaching down a book here and a book there, you find yourself almost unconsciously gathering up your notes and comparing them with those of former winners. And thus the following have been thrown together for what they are worth, and not as indispensable additions to the *Bibliotheca Piscatoria*.

Looking back to classical times, it is noteworthy that there is a lack of clear and confident opinion on the value of the only English translation of Oppian's *Halieutics*. The truth is, quoting from the words of an able and learned essayist on the life and writings of Oppian:—

"To the mere English reader the works of Oppian have been made known but very partially and imperfectly by a translation of the *Halieutics*, edited at Oxford in 1722. The two first books were translated by Mr. Diaper, and the remaining three by Mr. Jones. The latter speaks with the zeal of friendship of Mr. Diaper's translation, and, though he allows that he has somewhat paraphrased the author, believes 'that he has nowhere deviated from his sense and intention.' The great fault of the translation is undoubtedly its verbiage, and which the beauty and spirit of the original are buried. In one passage, twelve lines are employed

to render three of the original; and, in another, no fewer than thirty to represent nine. But this is not to translate. Though a single grace or illustration may be admitted by a translator, provided it be done rarely, and in the true spirit of the original, such licentiousness should never be tolerated. It turns beauty into deformity, and sinks the sublime to the bathos."

There is a quaint old treatise of the fifteenth century that has hitherto been omitted from the lists of fishing-books. It is *De partibus aedium* of Francis Marius Grapaldus, a poet laureate, who was chosen to no mean employment because of his "eloquence and beautiful shape." The first, though not the best edition, was printed at Parma, about 1494, by Angelo Ugoletto. It was printed in round characters, and is a very early example of the old Roman type. The book went through numerous editions, and is interesting to fishermen on account of its containing some twelve pages devoted to the "Piscina." Conrad Heresbach's work on husbandry is spoken of in the *Angler's Note Book* as being "now a very rare book indeed," but I suspect there are a few more editions of the original beside those mentioned by Mr. Westwood and Mr. Satchell. Bosgoed's list includes an edition printed at Cologne in 1571, and I have another edition printed at the same place in 1573. Neither of these is noticed in the new Catalogue.

Passing to our own fishing literature, there is just a word to be said about the first edition of Penn's *Maxims and Hints for an Angler*, published in 1832. Up to the present time it has only been incidentally noticed under the entry of Jesse's *Gleanings in Natural History*, to which it was appended. If it has not been attributed to Jesse, Penn has not as yet been recognised as the author. In other words, the *Maxims and Hints for an Angler*, first published in Jesse's *Gleanings*, have not been identified with those afterwards published under the name of Richard Penn. The name of the late Bishop of Oxford should not be omitted from the roll of angling essayists. It was he who contributed the article on Mr. Knox's *Autumn on the Spey* that appeared in the *Quarterly Review* for April 1873. It may be useful to bear in mind that there is a second edition, on large paper, of Couch's *Fishes of the British Islands*. This edition, which was published by Messrs. Bell and Sons a few years ago and is still in print, is a reprint of the first, without alteration in the text or plates. The following three pamphlets that should perhaps be catalogued are selected from some others that might also be registered:—(1) *Orders heretofore devised and agreed upon by the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor of the City of London, and Conservator of the River Thames and Waters of the Medway, and River Lee, for conservation and preservation of the River Thames, and of the Brood and Fry of Fish therein* (Sir Robert Ducey, Mayor, 1630); and subsequent orders. From the first of these it will be seen that 250 years ago a good stock of fish in the River Thames was regarded with little less importance than in the present day. (2) *The Heavenly Observatory; or, the Ocean spiritually considered*, by William Curtis, M.A. (1727)—an example of fishing spiritualised. (3) *A Plan of an Universal Fishing Company in Ireland* (1773).

Acts of Parliament and Parliamentary papers are not pleasant reading, to say the least; but undoubtedly the most important feature of the new *Bibliotheca Piscatoria* is the enumeration of those relating to our fisheries. Magna Carta is conspicuous by its absence; for it should not be forgotten that the most valuable fishery rights in this country have their origin in a period prior to the date of the Great Charter of King John and the second and third

confirmations of it in the reign of his successor. By these were prohibited the right of conferring a free fishery, or the exclusive right of fishing in a public river—a right that was looked upon as one of the flowers of the prerogative.

Since Howitt's delightful books of the country have been brought within the precincts of the angler's library, it may be observed that there are at least three editions of *The Rural Life of England*, and that there is an attractive and inexpensive reprint of *The Boy's Country Book*. Copies of the latter are still to be had from Messrs. Nelson, by whom it was published in 1880. But this is not the season for bibliography. We should away to the river-side,

"and give ourselves up wholly to the influence of the season; to angle, . . . and dream by the ever-lapsing water, in green and flowery meadows, for days and weeks, caring no more for all that is going on in this great and many coloured world than if there were no world at all beyond these happy meadows, so full of sunshine and quietness."

OSMUND LAMBERT.

#### SWIFT'S GIDDY FITS.

London: July 23, 1883.

In the *ACADEMY* for June 25, 1881 (p. 475), I pointed out, in a short letter, that the "giddy fits" with which Swift was troubled for the greater part of his life, and which have been such a puzzle to his biographers, were, in all likelihood, due to the disease named after Ménière. The symptoms are deafness and sickness, as well as giddiness, from all three of which there will be found good evidence that Swift suffered, if the journal to Stella and the letters to other correspondents be turned over.

Now, in the following year, six months after this publication, there appeared in the January number for 1882 of *Brain* an article which opens with these words:—"During the past autumn I received a letter from a gentleman engaged in literary work, requesting my opinion on the 'mysterious disease' of the great author and wit." The article then goes over the same ground that I had done, proving in the same way, by quotations, the existence of the three symptoms of giddiness, deafness, and sickness, the only difference being that in the one case as many pages are devoted to the subject as in the other were given lines.

Directly after the publication of the article, I wrote to Dr. Bucknill, who was at once the author of the communication and the editor of the journal in which the communication appeared, pointing out to him that I had anticipated all that he had said as to Swift and Ménière's disease. In reply, he assured me that he had not seen my letter to the *ACADEMY*. Since February 1882, therefore, I have been waiting for some public sign from Dr. Bucknill. I can find nothing in *Brain* since that date. Something, it is true, may have been published elsewhere; but it is not unreasonable to have thought that, in that case, my attention would have been drawn to it.

In the meantime, we have all been praising Dr. Bucknill for the great skill which he has shown in detecting the disease under which Swift laboured for so long, as well as for freeing Swift's memory from an absurd imputation. Mr. Craik quotes Dr. Bucknill, and decrees him a vote of thanks; while in the current number of the *Quarterly* the reviewer tells us that Dr. Bucknill has come to our assistance, and shown us the true cause of Swift's symptoms. None has given a word to the earlier publication in the pages of the *ACADEMY*, which would seem, in all likelihood, to have been the force which first set this ball rolling.

J. WICKHAM LEGG.

#### THE "QUARTERLY REVIEW" AND "GULLIVER."

London: July 25, 1883.

In the article on "Dean Swift in Ireland" in the new number of the *Quarterly*, I find at p. 44 a note directing attention to the fact that Swift was indebted for his description of the storm at the beginning of the "Voyage to Brobdingnag" to Samuel Sturmy's *Mariner's Magazine*, 1679. The note in question commences thus:—

"As this most curious appropriation, to which our attention was directed by a slip in a scrap-book in the British Museum, has wholly escaped Swift's biographers and critics, and has not, so far as we know, travelled beyond the scrap-book, we will transcribe the original and the copy, giving them both in parallel columns."

Then follow extracts from both *Gulliver* and the *Mariner's Magazine*.

As this note is not unlikely to convey a false impression, it seems to me necessary to state that in the British Museum Catalogue, under the heading "Swift (Jonathan)," there is the following entry:—"Swift's Description of a Storm, in the Voyage to Brobdingnag [proved by E. H. Knowles to have been copied from Sturmy's *Mariner's Magazine*]. Kenilworth, [1668.] s. sh. fol." On examining this "s. sh." (small sheet, not "slip"), I find parallel columns agreeing for the most part, though not in some subordinate particulars, with the extracts given in the *Quarterly*. The sheet bears the name "E. H. Knowles," and states at the bottom that it was "Printed at the 'Advertiser' Office, Castle End, Kenilworth." It is probable, therefore, that the sheet was a reprint from the *Kenilworth Advertiser*. The fact of Swift's indebtedness to Sturmy is no doubt important; but it was due to the original discoverer that the name given on the sheet, and the place of publication, should have been stated by the writer in the *Quarterly*. Of the criticism of *Gulliver* contained in the *Quarterly* article I forbear now to speak.

THOMAS TYLER.

#### THE RIVER TRISANTON.

Guildford: July 19, 1883.

As Mr. Bradley has alluded, in the *ACADEMY* of July 14, to my identification of the Arun with the Tarant, I should like to say that I base it on the passage in Dallaway's *History of Sussex* (vol. i., p. clii.), where he says that the ancient Saxon name for the upper waters of the Arun was Tarent. I am confident I have seen the same on old maps, but have not at present found the reference. Probably the Darent in Kent derives its name from the same root.

RALPH NEVILL.

#### SCIENCE.

*Catholicon Anglicum*: an English-Latin Word-book, dated 1483. Edited by S. J. H. Herrtage. (Early-English Text Society and Camden Society.)

The above work professes to give the list of Middle-English words and phrases, explained in Latin, which is contained in Lord Monson's MS. No. 168, with such additions as occur only in a MS. of like character, which is preserved in the British Museum, bearing the press mark: Addit. MS. 15562, and is designated by Mr. Herrtage as A.

A few weeks before its publication Mr. Herrtage presented the writer of the present article with a copy. This enabled me to ascertain, first of all, that the editor had not made such use of the Additional MS. as might have been expected; and when I found inserted, on p. 94, the word *corpora* as a



various reading from this MS., whereas it really has cor<sup>r</sup> A (i.e., *correcta*, or *corripitura*—i.e., short *a*), it appeared to me that such a misreading was suggestive of other errors.

I mentioned to Mr. Furnivall what I had seen; and, when, a few weeks afterwards, the book was issued, it was accompanied by a note in which Mr. Herrtage alludes to the misreading *corpora*, which I had pointed out, and further explains that he had regarded the Latin portion of the work as of secondary importance, and that his business had lain mainly with the English words, &c.

Lord Monson, when I asked him for the loan of his MS., in order to see how far the printed text could be trusted, refused at first, not unreasonably pointing out that it had only just been returned to him after an absence of sixteen (!) years, and, having been published, he did not care to part with it again. But, after some explanations, his lordship most kindly complied with my request. I have now collated the printed edition with the MS.; and I must state, to my regret, that the *Catholicon Anglicum* issued by the Early-English Text and Camden Societies is so disfigured by serious errors that it would be better if the book had not been published at all.

Mr. Herrtage had, however, to contend with great difficulties. The Monson MS. is dated 1483 by the scribe himself. For a MS. of this period it is wonderfully well written; large letters, clear ink, the English in red, the Latin in black. But, like most MSS. of that late period, it has a good many traps for an editor who has little experience of MSS., reads carelessly, or is insufficiently acquainted with English or Latin. The *f* and *f* (*s*) are used indiscriminately; so also the *c* and *t*. The *a*, when written *a* (not "*a*"), does not differ, in many cases, from *o* or *e*, nor can *e* be always distinguished from *o*, nor *o* from *a* or *e*. The strokes of *m* can be read any way (*in*, *ui*, *ni*, *iu*); the *n* and *u* cannot be distinguished at all. And when *i* happens to come together with *m*, *n*, or *u*, or *m* with *n* or *u*, or when they all come together in one word (say *minimus*), there is a perfect whirl of strokes. It is true the *i* was intended to be always marked with a diagonal line or dash over it; but in nearly every case the scribe wrote this dash not over the *i*, but over the letter which precedes or follows it, so that when *i* is followed or preceded by *m*, *n* or *u*, and the dash is placed over one of their strokes, the perplexity is increased. Nor did the scribe always carefully control the number of his strokes, and very often either omitted one or two, or wrote one or two more than was necessary. For instance, for *Gunner* he wrote quite distinctly *Gummer*. Puzzles of this kind are found in abundance in almost all MSS., even in the writing of our own day. We know of a vast number of amusing misprints and clerical errors which arose from misread strokes, letters, dots, &c. Foreigners imperfectly acquainted with English are often greatly embarrassed by indistinct English writing, and Englishmen imperfectly acquainted with (say) German, by a hastily or carelessly written German letter. It is unnecessary to say that the fault often lies with the ignorance of the reader, not always with the writing. In the same way

we have evidence that the scribe of the Monson MS. was not a trained Latinist, and that the work from which he copied puzzled him in somewhat the same points as his work might puzzle a copyist of the present time. For instance, we see him write: "*a* Lyke sange, *venia*." It is clear from this that he was unacquainted with the correct word, *nenia*, and, misreading the first *n* of his example for *u*, wrote (for clearness' sake) *v* himself. The scribe misread his original or corrupted the spellings of words in numerous other instances, and I think it due to Mr. Herrtage to say that he has, in many cases, corrected the scribe. Beside these difficulties, the two MSS. present one greater still. The marks of contraction found in them, though not differing from the usual ones, do not always serve to indicate the precise letters omitted, but merely to show that some letter or letters have been omitted. For instance, a little curl resembling a roughly written *a*, or a Greek  $\omega$  placed on its right side, which usually indicates an omitted *ra*, here stands for *-dia*, or for *-ripitur*, or *-repta*, &c. It is clear that MSS. of this kind must at once perplex persons who are acquainted only with such elementary instructions as are given, for instance, in Prof. Skeat's *Specimens of English Literature*, p. xv.

As we have now a faint idea of the difficulties in the Monson MS., which are scarcely less in the Additional MS., we may turn to the printed edition. We are told in the Preface that the MS. was copied (some eighteen years ago) by an ordinary copyist for an intending editor. "Various circumstances" induced this gentleman to transfer his task to another, who, in his turn, was also "forced" to relinquish his intention. It may safely be presumed that these two gentlemen, having realised to some extent the puzzling nature of the MS., wisely abstained "from putting it in hand." At length Mr. Herrtage came forward. Unfortunately, he appears to have been hurried on by the "Committee of Management" of the Early-English Text Society, who impressed on him the urgency of the publication of this book, which had been in hand for so many years. The committee also seem to have told him that the Latin portion of the work was of no importance, as in this country we only cared for Early English; and that, for this reason, he could omit all the grammatical explanations of the Latin portion which are found here and there in the MS., as *hic haec* *hoc* to mark the gender, *us a um* to indicate adjectives.

Mr. Herrtage's notes make it clear that, in spite of the demoralising influence of such suggestions, he has devoted a marvellous amount of energy and labour to the work. It is true a good many of the words so elaborately explained and illustrated by him could scarcely be expected to be as obscure to others as they appear to have been to him; it is also true that in his notes he sometimes explains words which are mere misreadings, as, e.g., under *Calderon*, where he prints *enium*, and says that "*enium* is of course for *aheneum* or *aseneum*, a vessel of brass," whereas the MS. has simply *enum*. Nor must we forget that some other notes are mis-

leading, as under *Restoratype*, which the MS. explains by *algebra*, which induces the editor to say, "Surely the strangest definition of a restorative ever given;" whereas a reference to Du Cange (the Henschel edition, not the compendium of M. Maigne D'Arnis\*) would have shown him that *algebra* does mean a restorative. But, on the whole, his notes, if used with caution, will prove a boon to students of Early English.

Unfortunately, Mr. Herrtage's text is in a sad condition. This will at once be understood if I point out a few of his errors. In the very first line the Monson MS. has "*Aa, eya, sodes, amabo, me cor.*" The two last words, with their marks of contraction, mean, "*media* [vocalis or syllaba] *corripitur*"—i.e., the middle or central vowel or syllable (of *amabo*) is shortened. Mr. Herrtage, not understanding this, printed *meum cor*, and, strange to say, adds a note, "*Cor meum. My sweetheart. Plautus' Riddle's Lat. Dictionary.*" On p. 37, col. 1, l. 6, we find "*ephebi animale, fornix, corus.*" We may well ask what did the editor understand of these words? The MS. has "*ephebian, indeclinabile, fornix, cis, i corripitur*"—i.e., *ephebian*, indeclinable, *fornix* (gen.) *cis, i* (of *fornicis*) is shortened." The strokes of *n*, *u*, &c., referred to above, are frequently misread—e.g., under "*arowe*" we find *armido* for *arundo* (= *harundo*); under "*company*," *comitina* for *comitina*; under "*despice*," *perinpender* for *parui pendere*; under "*deuille*," *leiuathan* for *leuiathan*. Apart from the stroke difficulty, there are other wrong readings, which, with a little care and collation of the Additional MS., might have been avoided. For instance, on p. 19, col. 2, l. 3, we find *imembrana*. But the Monson MS. has distinctly *ōimēbrana*, which ought to have been printed if the MS. had been faithfully followed; but the Additional MS. would have enabled the editor to give the true reading, as it has *hominum membrana*.

Confusion between *f* and *f* appears often—e.g., p. 24, l. 16, *fatagare* for *satagare*; p. 41, col. 2, l. 8, *fura* for *sura*. Here *M* has *fura*, but *A* *sura*. Though the MSS. often confuse these two letters, the editor should

\* The use of compendiums, or of old and obsolete dictionaries, for editorial purposes is to be deprecated. Prof. Skeat used the D'Arnis Compendium of Du Cange's *Glossarium* exclusively in the compilation of his Dictionary, not always to the advantage of his work. For instance, his note under *margrave*, that *graphio* meant an exactor of taxes, and was so used in A.D. 1061, is from the Compendium, though he calls it Du Cange. The use of the real Du Cange might have furnished him with a better chronology; at any rate, the word appears already in a quasi-Latin dress in the *Lex Salica* (commencement of sixth century). Strange to say, Prof. Skeat seems so pleased with this Compendium that he recommends it in his List of Authorities (where only three other books are recommended) as "an excellent and cheap Compendium in one volume." Cheap it is, perhaps; but excellent!

† It is perhaps not superfluous to remark that this shortness of the penultimate of *amabo* (when used as an entreaty in conversation) is not pointed out either in Forcellini, or Lewis and Short, or White and Riddle. It is distinctly indicated as long in Cooper's *Thesaurus*. But there can be no doubt as to its having been regarded as short in the Middle Ages, as appears from a list of short and long vowels in a Sarum Missal, printed in 1526, which Mr. Bradshaw showed me when I asked him for information on this point.

have given in all cases the right word, even if he had done so in a foot-note. This *f* and *f* difficulty has also affected an English, or let me say Anglicised, word. On p. 21, col. 2, l. 1, we read: "A Barsepay (*Barfray* A), fustibulum." The word is nowadays written belfry; its etymology and history are not obscure, but have yet been recently discussed at great length in *Notes and Queries*, and the discussion was closed by an etymology worse than any yet proposed. Mr. Herrtage's *Catholicon* will add to the confusion; his *s* is a mis-read *f*, as the Monson MS. has unmistakably *barfepay*. In this case the place where the word is written in the alphabet might have guided the editor, even if the MS. had been wrong. Though the *p* is distinct, we may safely assume that the work from which the scribe copied had *-fray*, as an *f* (if the top stroke is not written long enough) followed by *r* may easily be mistaken for *p*. On p. 190 the editor prints *howfe*, which is according to the MS., but the word coming between *s* words it is clear that *s* was meant.

It is unnecessary to give more examples. Mr. Herrtage would have produced a better book if he had not been hurried on, if he had not omitted anything from the MS., and especially if he had collated the Monson with the Additional MS., not in a perfunctory way, but word for word. As it is, the only thing that can be done is to prepare a list of the errors (which I hope to do shortly), and distribute it among the members of the Early-English Text Society.

Few, I think, will agree with Mr. Herrtage in his appeal (evidently suggested by the committee of the Early-English Text Society) to Germans to re-edit the work. Surely it would be better to train men in this country for work of this kind! It is somewhat strange that the committee of one of our chief philological societies (counting among its members Profs. Mayor and Skeat) should consider Latin of secondary importance. What could be more important to English philologists than classical and mediaeval Latin? Yet it is not impossible that the committee's opinion is shared by a good many others in this country. Hence, perhaps, the little attention paid to mediaeval Latin. We have only one attempt to make the mediaeval Latin of English books accessible to those who care for it—viz., Prof. Mayor's Glossary to the third and fourth books of Bede's *Historia Ecclesiastica*, published five years ago. It is so excellent that one could wish for another instalment from the same able hand, and that all Latin authors, registers, cartularies, &c., were edited in the same way. The *Catholicon Anglicum* might have been the second attempt, and no special efforts were required for this purpose; a correct text and an index at the end were the only two things necessary. The works published by the Master of the Rolls are not edited for philological purposes; their glossaries only register the curious and out-of-the-way words, or those not found in Du Cange. And as it is "the plan of this [the Master of the Rolls'] series to bring the spelling into accordance with common usage" (see Canon Robertson's *Materials for the History of Thomas Becket*, Preface, xxxi.),

the compilation of a glossary from these altered materials would scarcely be of any use. For an adequate treatment of the chronological etymology of English we want a register of a vast number of words not yet recorded in any dictionary, but used no doubt in the Latin of mediaeval authors. No work illustrates our wants in this respect better than Prof. Skeat's Dictionary. I am not going to find fault with that work, which is one of great industry and extensive reading, and is compiled with a due perception of what we want; some of the articles may even be called masterpieces. But the want of proper materials for words derived from Latin (including mediaeval Latin) is observable on almost every page. I will only mention three instances. (1) Under "hermit," the author is reduced to refer to "Piers Ploughman" (a work naturally included in his own reading) for the Low-Latin *heremita*, as it is not given in any dictionary except the little-known Diefenbach Supplement. Yet *heremita* was the general, *eremita* the exceptional, form in mediaeval authors. Matthew Paris used the former exclusively; already Bede has *heremitica* vita (Prof. Mayor's Gloss.), not to speak of Eunodius exclusively using *heremus*. It is rather curious that Forcellini is aware of the forms *h-*, but gives no instances. (2) Under *febrilis* Prof. Skeat was obliged to say that the Latin word was not in White and Riddle. Nor is it in Lewis and Short, and Forcellini only records it from the Gloss. Philoxeni. I find it used by Matthew Paris, and we may safely presume that every mediaeval author of note used it. (3) Prof. Skeat correctly derives *escheat*, through the French, from the Low-Latin *excadere*, which he says is found in a document of 1229. This date is correct as far as our registered materials go; but as the quasi-Latin *escaeta*, *excaeta*, &c., appear, even in our scanty materials, considerably earlier than the date mentioned, and these words are, in their turn, traced back to still earlier French forms, all derived from *excadere*, it is clear that we must look for this parent-word far beyond the date recorded. I could easily give more examples, but it is unnecessary. Prof. Skeat has, fortunately, had the courage to give his dates. However wrong they may be (and with the materials at hand they could scarcely be otherwise), we know now the limits of his chronology, and future lexicographers will be able to supplement him if they have the materials for doing so.

J. H. HESSELS.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. ABEL'S "ILCHESTER LECTURES."

11 Matthæi Kirch Strasse, Berlin:  
July 23, 1883.

I venture to count upon your goodness in permitting me to say a few words in reply to Mr. Morfill's notice of my *Ilchester Lectures* (ACADEMY, July 21).

1. The statement attributed to me by Mr. Morfill that "the Russian idea of liberty is mere licence, as the derivation of the word which they use shows," does not occur in my book. I, on the contrary, devote several pages to the interpretation of the Russian concept from the actual meaning of its representative terms in modern times. Throughout the book I follow the same rule, defining significations from use, and treating derivations as something distinct.

For example, p. 96: "But, whatever its derivation, *svobodry*, in its historical acceptation, plainly bears the sense of 'politically free.'"

2. Mr. Morfill misunderstands me as to what he says I call Finno-Russian. It escapes him that Karamzin coined the term, and that its linguistic application by me refers to the alteration of Slavonic significations by the Slavified Fin, not to the introduction of Finnic words into Slavic.

3. Mr. Morfill says, "The word *chmura*, 'cloud,' is also Polish, and from that language, no doubt, the Russians got that signification." My reply is that the word *chmura* does not stand alone in Little Russian, as loan-words necessarily do. I count thirteen derivatives from the same root—several of them unknown to the Poles—in Little Russian, and therefore I am justified in considering the word as part of the original stock of the language until the reverse shall have been proved by historical evidence. If all the Little-Russian words occurring in Polish, but missing in Great Russian, are to be regarded as taken from Polish, a very considerable portion of the Little-Russian language dates from the Sarmatic invasion.

4. What I transcribe *velit*, Mr. Morfill renders *velyet*. From considerable experience, I can assure him that my transcription approximates more closely than his to the original sound, though of course this cannot be absolutely rendered in English characters.

5. Mr. Morfill objects to my adopting Schafarik's etymology of "Wiltshire," which word—referring to Wil-saetas—he reads Wil-t(un)-shire, not Wilt-shire. The old Slavonic patronymic being preserved in the three several forms of Wind, Wilt, and Wil (cf. Wolin, otherwise called Waltzin; Wil-na on the Wilia, just as Wil-ton on the Wily, &c.), Mr. Morfill's statement that Wil-t(un)-shire is the only correct reading does not invalidate the attribution to that locality of a Slav element.

6. Mr. Morfill "would like to know my authority for the anecdote about Frediakovski." I have much pleasure in referring him to the writings of M. Henry Martin.

C. ABEL.

#### EARLY CHINESE LITERATURE.

London: July 23, 1883.

It is a great satisfaction to me to learn that Dr. Edkins recognises the value of the Ku-wen or oldest Chinese characters, which I was the first to discover. As rightly surmised by him, these characters have special principles of formation and composition. But I do not think it useful (if it were possible) to attempt to expound them here, as I have already done so with the necessary proofs in a work on "The Origins of Chinese Civilisation" which Messrs. W. H. Allen and Co. have in the press. I will only state that not one of the characters quoted by Dr. Edkins is an ideo-phonetic compound, as he supposes them to be.

When I said that Dr. Edkins has not studied the oldest orthography, I thought it clear that no other orthography could be implied by my words than the Ku-wen. We all know that with the help of T'wan yü tsai's works, which were not known in Europe, Dr. Edkins has largely studied the rhymes of old Chinese poetry. But these rhymes exist not in Ku-wen, but either in the Chuen style or through the transcriptions of Han scholars. Therefore they cannot be considered as proofs of the oldest orthography, inasmuch as their original texts, excepting a few pieces of the *Shi-King* and fragments of the *Shu-King* and of the *Yü-King*, were all written later than the eleventh century B.C. The Han scholars have done their utmost to recover the old rhymes. With their con-



venient ideo-phonetic characters, they have handed down rhymes for the larger part of the verses. But often these exist only according to the pronunciation of their time; and nothing proves that they always represent the old rhymes. It happens, also, that when Dr. Edkins' "laws" are applied to the restoration of rhyming finals they are sometimes found to be worthless, as shown by Dr. Chalmers (*China Review*, vol. vi., p. 172). However, as they appear to be right in many cases, there must be some truth in them; if they fail, this arises, as I have already said, partly from the fact that Dr. Edkins has erroneously supposed many ideo-phonetic compounds to be older than they are in the evolution of Chinese writing.

In the many genuine cases where the finals have been satisfactorily proved by the rhymes, or might be so proved, nothing shows that the initials can be inferred as well as the finals. Dr. Edkins thinks that they can. But then he must be ready to support these two propositions:—that all the groups and compound characters are ideo-phonetic, and also that the groups do represent simple words. Now I think that both are equally untenable. We must make use of the experience of the past, and avoid the difficulty which has hindered former researches in collateral studies. In assuming as a principle that all the determinatives are silent, Egyptologists and Assyriologists had laid down from their decipherments languages which cannot be spoken—Egyptian and Akkadian. So far as the latter is concerned, the most advanced scholars do not maintain this view beyond a few characters only, whose pronunciation seems to have been occasionally dropped at a very early period. Egyptian phonology is still in a backward stage, and is now only beginning to advance on a similar path; but, so far as I can judge, the same progress is sure to be made in this quarter also by further researches. The multiplication of silent characters is a matter of evolution and decay in a writing composed of phonograms and ideophones. Returning to the Chinese, I have advanced so far in my study of the Ku-wen, or oldest characters, that I am able to state that their groups and compounds do not always represent simple words, and that they are not all compounds of phonograms, nor of ideophones and phonograms. I think the fact established by my book, where it is shown by the principles of formation. Studied by the help of my disclosures, the oldest parts of the *Shi-King* have yielded the most interesting results for the knowledge of the archaic language.

I think it would have been better for Dr. Edkins to reconsider his proofs before arguing from Buddhist transcriptions that *h* in lower even tone must be *g* in old Chinese, as I am obliged to repeat that *there is no such a law*. The *g* of the Hindus is rendered in Julien's *Méthode* (pp. 105-11) by Chinese *h* in four cases only, not twenty, as Dr. Edkins asserts; and, of these four, two are in his favour and two against him. On the other hand, there are about one hundred cases (pp. 116-33) where *g* is rendered by *h*, which dispose of the supposed law altogether.

Dr. Edkins affirms that *Pak* in the expression "Pak sing" means "hundred." But this is not the received Chinese opinion, according to which it means "numerous," "many," "all" (see *Khang-hi Tze tien*, s. v.); and this would be not unconnected with the meaning of the ethnic *Balk* as proposed by Pott, Haug, &c. As I have not alleged that *Pak* was a tribal name (though it occurs twice in the family name), I shall not say anything about the reply of Dr. Edkins on this point. He still thinks that Hwang-ti means "Yellow Emperor," which is the rendering of the ideographic char-

acters (though it might have been used only phonetically). To this I only object that all the Chinese names are translatable, because of the meaning in all the characters, inherent or attributed. Besides, *Nai* (old *Nak*) or *Nang*, the denomination of Hwang-ti, is known to us from the traditions gathered at the time of the Han dynasty (after the learning of the books); but this is the case with almost all the other traditions of ancient China, excepting the classics, and I do not think that any doubt has ever been cast upon this fact. Moreover, as I find the same character written *Nak Khon* in Ku-wen, I think that I am justified in holding the title to be an old one. Dr. Edkins seems to believe that I propose to identify the fabulous Chinese Emperor with the Susian god *Nak Khunte*; but this is not the case. I identify the name—a very different thing, and, I think, quite within the limit of probability, as it was so used by the rulers of Susiana. I may add, as confirming my identification, that in the Chinese legends *Nak Khunte* (modern *Nai Hwang-ti*) is said to come from "Sho-den" or "Sho-dzen," a name unknown in Chinese geography, but singularly like "Suzun," the capital of the kings entitled "Nak-Khunte" in the inscriptions of Susiana.

I have nothing to say about a law of change between Siamese and Chinese, which I have never claimed for myself, as I have been acquainted with it almost from my school-days. It was known years before Dr. Edkins quoted it in his *China's Place in Philology*.

Dr. Edkins was more safe in his earlier than in his later studies. His first paper—"On Ancient Chinese Pronunciation" (1855)—was a revelation; taken together with the first part of his excellent *Mandarin Grammar*, it deserves consideration from all Sinologists. But his later researches—"A Connection of Chinese and Hebrew," with laws of change, &c. (twelve articles in the *Chinese Recorder*, 1871-72), and "The Celtic, compared with the Hebrew, Chinese, and Mongol" (the *Phoenix*, 1871), followed by such books as *China's Place in Philology* and *Introduction to the Study of Chinese Characters*—I beg leave to think uncritical. The amount of truth in these latter works is too often obscured by the great number of misconceptions and slips of the pen (?). Dr. Edkins has carried his first discoveries beyond justifiable limits. I must express my regret at being obliged to speak thus plainly. We are all liable to make mistakes, especially when treading unbeaten tracks. Because my studies go farther back than his, I do not see why he should feel aggrieved. The great services he has rendered to Chinese philology are fully admitted, and we of the new school still hope much from him. Should Dr. Edkins give us his valuable assistance in China, instead of wasting time on secondary points which hitherto I am unable to concede, more useful work would be done, since we agree on the main questions.

As regards modern Chinese scholars, and the present Minister in this country, Teeng hön, in particular, I may say that I had the pleasure of being introduced to him by my friend Mr. Fung ye before his departure for Russia and the publication of my paper on "The Oldest Book of the Chinese," but after the appearance of Dr. Legge's translation of the *Yh-King*. He told me that he had spent several years upon the mysterious classic, and was satisfied that it could not be understood without a deep study of the ancient characters; he added that he once began such a study, but had not hitherto had leisure to continue it. This was a great satisfaction to me, as it is just what I had undertaken before my discovery of the true nature of the contents of the *Yh-King*.

TERRIEN DE LA COUPERIE.

## SCIENCE NOTES.

THE long-established magazine of popular science, entitled *Science Gossip*, will from this date be published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus.

THE islands of the Tenimber group, including Timor-laut, which lies to the east of Timor, and between New Guinea and Northern Australia, were explored a year or two ago by Mr. H. O. Forbes, partly under the guidance of a committee of the British Association, by whose funds he had been assisted. The ethnological report which he sent home is published in the August number of the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute*. A number of objects of ethnological interest accompanied the report, and were transferred to the British Museum. Some of these are described by Mr. C. H. Read in an Appendix to the paper. A vocabulary of the leading words used in Timor-laut and in the Ke Islands is also published in connexion with Mr. Forbes's anthropological report.

WE have received from Messrs. Macmillan a second edition of *The Elements of Embryology*, by Dr. Michael Foster and the late Prof. E. M. Balfour. It is edited by Messrs. Adam Sedgwick and Walter Heape. The volume possesses a special interest, owing to the fact that it was actually in hand when Prof. Balfour met with his untimely death. It was originally set forth as part i. of a more extended work, for it dealt only with the history of the chick; but Prof. Balfour intended to add some account of the mammalian embryo. He had only passed for press part of the first portion, however, before his fatal journey to Switzerland; and the task of carrying out his intention with respect to the mammalian embryo devolved, accordingly, upon the two editors. They have performed it in a very able and satisfactory manner, and have turned out the whole as a book specially adapted to the needs of medical students, who will find in it all that is most essential for them to know in the elements of vertebrate embryology.

## FINE ART.

GREAT SALE of PICTURES, at reduced prices (Engravings, Chromos, and Olographs), handsomely framed. Everyone about to purchase pictures should pay a visit. Very suitable for wedding and Christmas presents.—Geo. Hicks, 115, Strand, near Waterloo-bridge.

*Laoköon*. By R. Kekulé. (Stuttgart: Speman.)

APART from the general interest which must always attach to the *Laoköon* group from the brilliant investigations of Lessing and Goethe on its relation to literary versions of the legend, every now and then something happens to bring it specially to the surface. Not long ago Goethe's notion that one of the sons—the elder of the two in the group—must be viewed as possibly escaping with his life, was found to be confirmed by an expression of Arktinos of Miletos in his *Iliupersis*, to the effect that *Laoköon* and only one of his two sons perished. This was the occasion of an admirable article by Brunn in the *Arch. Zeitung* (1879, p. 167), in which, as in the present memoir of Prof. Kekulé, the wonderful beauty of the analysis made by Goethe is duly demonstrated. They do not say absolutely that the sculptors of the group had followed the version of the legend as given by Arktinos, but merely that they must have had it in view. Again, the Gigantomachia on the altar-frieze of Pergamos, now removed to Berlin, presents various points of com-

parison with the sculpture of the Laoköon a consideration of which must help to decide the date of the latter. Prof. Kekulé has undertaken this task; and to say that he has accomplished it with the lucidity of exposition which comes from a firm grasp of all that is essential, and a determined leaving out of the question of all that is secondary, is only to say what every reader must admit. He has succeeded in showing that the date of the Laoköon group may be placed at a little before 100 B.C.

There is, however, one question which he has left unexhausted, not that it affects injuriously his conclusion; I refer to the much debated phrase of Pliny that the sculptors had executed the group *de consilii sententia*. Latin authorities maintained that the *consilium* here could only mean a "board;" and, as there seemed to be no possibility of any other board in the matter than one instituted by the Emperor Titus, in whose palace the group stood, great offence was taken by those who were convinced that the sculpture had been executed long before the time of Titus, as, indeed, we now know it to have been. But they offered no explanation satisfactory to Latin scholars, though they knew that the sculptors were Rhodian artists, that the group had in all probability been conveyed from Rhodes to Rome, and that concerning the sculptors of another famous group in Rhodes—the so-called Farnese Bull at Naples—Pliny had made a ludicrous mistake. These sculptors, Apollonios and Tauriskos, had described themselves according to the formula familiar in Rhodian inscriptions as "by nature" the sons of So-and-so, but "by adoption," καὶ ὑιοθεσίαν, the sons of So-and-so. Pliny, unacquainted with the Rhodian formula, makes out that they were uncertain of their parentage! Why not, then, look for some other Rhodian phrase which would apply to a work of sculpture, and would bear the translation of *de consilii sententia* by a writer not familiar with Rhodian usage in such matters? An exact equivalent is the γνῶμη or γνῶμα προσατάων familiar in the heading of Greek inscriptions from Rhodes and its neighbourhood. It is probable that Pliny had found on the plinth of the Laoköon either these words or the variation of them which occurs on an inscribed base from Knidos (Newton, *Hist. Disc.* ii. 749, No. 31), where the god Hermes is made to say,

ἐνὶ Νεωπολιτῶν προσατάων ἀφικόμενος  
Ἐρμῆς Ἀφροδίτῃ πάρεδρος, ἀλλὰ χαλεπεύει.

It is only right to say that G. Wolff (*Arch. Zeit.* 1864, p. 200), and I believe also Otto Jahn, had proposed to explain the words of Pliny as indicating a public decree of Rhodes at the instance of which the group had been made. My explanation has the advantage of giving the phrase which Pliny had translated, and of showing that he was not unlikely to have stumbled as to its local signification.

In the arguments as to the date of the Laoköon group, the question has often turned on a series of inscribed bases of statues found in Italy and bearing the name of a sculptor, Athanodoros, with such indications of his parentage as to show that he was the same as the Athanodoros who, with his father and

brother, made the Laoköon. Opinions have varied in regard to the character of the writing in these inscriptions, and it is therefore a valuable service that Prof. Kekulé has here rendered in collecting and publishing facsimiles of them. The forms of the letters, compared with inscriptions from Pergamos, yield a date of about 100 B.C.; and this, Prof. Kekulé maintains, would be the date yielded by the Laoköon when compared as a piece of sculpture with the colossal reliefs from Pergamos. By photographic illustration, he contrasts the head of a giant from the Pergamos frieze with the head of Laoköon, and shows easily that the latter is of a later age. In two more plates he compares the figure of Laoköon with that of the young giant in what is called the Athena slab of the Pergamos frieze. A. S. MURRAY.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

THE NIOBÉ OF SIPYLOS.

Queen's College, Oxford: July 20, 1883.

The origin and approximate date of the famous image of Niobé on Mount Sipylus may be considered to be at last settled. The inscription attached to it, which was first discovered by Mr. Dennis and subsequently copied by him and me, proved it to be a monument of the Hittite domination in Asia Minor; and the recent discovery by Dr. Gollob of another Hittite inscription, as well as the cartouche of Ramses II. in badly executed Egyptian hieroglyphs, further shows that I was right in assigning it to the fourteenth century before our era. My reasons for doing so were based partly on my Hittite speculations, partly on the extraordinary resemblance of the figure to the sitting image of Nofretari, the wife of Ramses II., carved in a niche of the cliff a little below Abu-simbel. It was difficult not to believe that the latter had been seen by the Hittite sculptor of "Niobé."

We may now, therefore, take it for granted that the image in which the Greeks, as early as the days of Homer, saw the weeping Niobé, and which must consequently have been already weather-worn and rain-stained, was really the likeness of the goddess of Carchemish carved on the cliff of Sipylus by Hittite conquerors in the time of Ramses-Sesostris. Now, it is curious that, in spite of all the controversies which the "Niobé" has excited, no one has yet noticed that this conclusion of modern research is actually implied in a fragment of Xanthos, the Lydian historian. The fragment is given by Müller (*Fr. Hist. Græc.* i. 39) from the thirty-third chapter of the *Erotika* of Parthenios of Nikaea. The words of Parthenios are as follow:—

"The story of Niobé, too, is told differently to the usual legend. For they [Xanthos, Neanthos, and Simmias] say that she was not the daughter of Tantalos, but of Assaôn, and the wife of Philottos, and that she suffered the following punishment because of her contention with Létô about the beauty of her children. Philottos was slain while hunting, and Assaôn, overcome by love for his daughter, wished to marry her; but Niobé refused, and after summoning her sons to a feast, burnt them, and then, overwhelmed by the misfortune, cast herself from a lofty rock. As for Assaôn, when he became conscious of his crime, he killed himself."

Philottos will be the Lydian name of Attya, and it is possible that Sandan or Sandôn may lie concealed in Assaôn. A. H. SAYCE.

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PRESERVING THE  
MEMORIALS OF THE DEAD.

Belle Vue Rise, Norwich: July 22, 1883.

The work of copying the monumental in-

scriptions in the cathedral, churches, churchyards, and closed burial-grounds in the city of Norwich is rapidly progressing, and will be extended to the county. The transcriptions are partially complete for the cathedral and the churches of St. Martin at Palace, St. Peter at Mancroft, St. Giles', and St. Stephen's; and wholly completed for St. John's, Timberhill, and St. Helen's churches and churchyards, the Old Meeting House, and Quakers' burial-grounds.

All the inscriptions are being copied so far as they are legible, and will be supplemented by drawings of all coats of arms. The importance of this undertaking to historians and genealogists cannot be over-estimated, and their value as supplementary to parish registers needs no demonstration.

In the church of St. Helen the name of ATTELEY occurs as follows:—

#### SLAB 1.

Edward Attelsey, sen., dyed October 27, 1693, aged sixty-seven.

Edward Attelsey, jun., died December 21, 1741, aged forty-five.

#### SLAB 2.

Edward Attelsey, died August 14, 1694.

#### SLAB 3.

Prudence, wife of Edward Attelsey, died August 22, 1694, aged seventy-one. [This stone is broken into three pieces.]

#### SLAB 4.

Wm. Attelsey, son of Edwd. and Prue. Attelsey, died September 1, 1706, aged forty-seven years. Pagraff Attelsey, his wife, died September 30, 1748.

Mary Attelsey, daughter of Willm. and Pagraff Attelsey, died September 12, 1749, aged sixty years.

#### MURAL TABLET 5.

Peter Attelsey, Esq., Alderman, Sheriff, and Mayor, died February 4, 1729, aged sixty-six.

Anne, his wife, died September 26, 1728, aged seventy-five.

Edward and John, their sons.

#### SLAB 6.

Edward Attelsey, son of Peter Attelsey and Anne his wife, died June 1698.

#### MURAL TABLET 7.

Mr. Peter Attelsey, Merchant, died January 23, 1750, in his sixty-third year.

Mrs. Jane Attelsey, his widow, died March 16, 1753, in her sixtieth year.

Mr. Peter Attelsey, their only son, died August 9, 1746, in his eighteenth year.

#### SLAB 8.

Edward, son of Peter Attelsey, jun., died 1719.

#### SLAB 9.

Nicholas Attelsey, son of Edwd. and Prue. Attelsey, was buried February 24, 1718, aged fifty-four years.

Sarah, his wife, was buried October 14, 1725, aged sixty-four years.

Martha, daughter of the above and wife of Wm. Attelsey, died November 30, 1735, aged thirty-nine years.

Sarah Attelsey, daughter of Wm. and Martha Attelsey, died December 23, 1748, aged twenty-two years.

#### MURAL TABLET 10.

Anne, youngest daughter of Peter Attelsey, Esq., and Anne his wife, the late wife of John Barker, died December 4, 1733, aged forty years.

Sarah, eldest daughter of Peter Attelsey, Esq., and Anne his wife, ye widow of Philip Dyball, died September 9, 1735, aged forty-five years.

Philip Dyball, late husband of Sarah Dyball, departed this life December 28, 1718, aged twenty-eight years.

Anne, daughter of Philip and Sarah Dyball, died February 25, 1731, aged fourteen.

Philip, their son, died November 18, 1716, in the first year of his age.



There is a second stone to Philip and Sarah Dyball and Anne their daughter.

Who were these Attelseys? is the name uncommon? is the Christian name *Pagraft* known elsewhere? and are not the words "was buried" in the cases of Nicholas Attelsey and Sarah his wife peculiar? WM. VINCENT, Secretary.

#### NOTES ON ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY.

To the announcement, in Monday's *Standard*, that the Royal Institute of Painters in Water-Colours has taken studios in Great Ormond Street for its newly founded schools, and will open them in the autumn, we are able to add some particulars. The schools will be limited to male students under the age of twenty-five years. For ladies there will be at present no sufficient accommodation; it has therefore been decided that ladies' classes cannot be held. The instruction, as has been stated; will be entirely gratuitous, but it is, of course, not directed to those who present themselves unskilled, the object of the schools being, as we understand, rather to enable persons of gifts and acquirements to perfect themselves in their art than to increase the number of would-be artists. In addition to the subscriptions among members of the Institute necessary for the foundation of the schools, Mr. Nettelford has promised liberal aid, and prizes will probably be offered by other private persons. We need hardly express our approval of the efforts thus being made to encourage the English art of water-colour.

We are glad to learn that Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, encouraged by the reception that has been accorded his *Roman Lancashire*, has decided to bring out a companion volume dealing with the Roman occupation of Cheshire. Many years of preparation have given him a mastery of the subject; and the issue of the book within a twelvemonth may, we believe, be expected. The announcement was received with great satisfaction by Dean Howson and the other members of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society who were assembled at Chester on Saturday last.

We understand that the series of illustrations to the articles on "Children's Life in India" in the August number of *Little Folks Magazine* have been specially drawn by Mr. Herbert Johnson, who accompanied the Prince of Wales during his visit to India.

The little exhibition of drawings, sketches, studies, and photographs from studies by the late Dante Gabriel Rossetti, still on view in the one room somewhat ambitiously styled "The Rossetti Gallery" in Old Bond Street, has gained considerably in attractiveness since it was first opened. Small as the collection is, it contains not a few gems, many of which are none the less beautiful because they are unfinished. Some of the portrait-heads (including several of Mrs. William Morris and a peculiarly delicate and expressive water-colour study of Mr. Swinburne) are especially interesting; while the superb "Lucrezia Borgia" over the mantelpiece is alone worth going to see, were it only for the masterly painting of her white-and-gold brocade dress and the subtle "counterpoint" of red in the background, where a scarlet poppy, emblematic of death, is placed in juxtaposition with a flask of red (and poisoned) wine. Rossetti's first chalk cartoon for "Mary Magdalene at the Door of Simon the Pharisee," the exquisite pencil design for "Fazio's Mistresses," the original pen-and-ink study for the head of the crouching girl in "Found," and the unfinished "Giotto painting the Portrait of Dante" are all fine and characteristic examples of a great artist whose works will always be difficult of access and rare.

AN exhibition of drawings by Modern Masters is to be held at Paris next year by the Association des Artistes-peintres, Dessinateurs, &c. We wish something of the same sort could be set on foot in England, and have often regretted that the Black and White Society has not included in its exhibitions more studies and designs by English painters of the first class. Such works are often instructive, bringing us nearer to the mind of the artist than finished pictures. The latter (except, perhaps, those of the Impressionists) should be rigorously excluded from such an exhibition.

THE Essex Archaeological Society is following the example lately set by the publication of Mr. Ferguson's *Church Plate of Cumberland*. A letter has been addressed to the clergy and churchwardens throughout the county, making enquiry as to the number and description of the pieces of plate belonging to each parish. The 145 replies which have been received—a small portion only of the whole—show that the church plate of Essex is at least equal in interest to that of Cumberland. The plate of which particulars have already been received commences as early as *temp. Elizabeth*. With regard to the church plate of Cumberland, a curious find has just been made at Carlisle. While looking through a general store in that city, Mr. J. Jackson found a finely moulded paten, which has been identified with that mentioned in the *Church Plate of Cumberland* as having been lost from Kirklington church. It is of block tin, and is inscribed "Kirklington, 1732." It is nine inches in diameter and three inches high. It bears the maker's name "Grant," and the Hall marks.

#### THE STAGE.

##### THE TWO PLAYS AT THE VAUDEVILLE.

DURING the late summer and early autumn season the management of the Vaudeville bids adieu to its highest aspirations; in other words, it defers till it may be October the resumption of the fame which this theatre has made as the home of the elder comedy. "She Stoops to Conquer" will eventually be played in fitting succession to "The Rivals;" but meanwhile there is an interval, and it is occupied by modern work. They play two pieces, both of which are worthy of some attention. Neither piece is absolutely new, yet neither is too familiar. "An Old Master," by Mr. H. A. Jones, has been performed before—at the Court, if our memory serves us. "Confusion," by Mr. Derrick, a writer whose name is new to us, was played for a single afternoon a few months ago. It was recognised as being very funny—about as funny as bold—and it was clear that if it were put into the bill in the evening it would compel laughter for many weeks. It is of the nature of farcical comedy. Mr. Wyndham, we suppose, would have been glad to have had it for the Criterion. Since it is described as original, we have no desire or expectation of tracing its origin to those pieces at the Palais Royal and the Variétés with which it has at all events close kinship. Has not the Vaudeville discovered in Mr. Derrick an English writer with the fertility of invention that is generally characteristic of the French, and a writer who can deal adroitly with decidedly risky themes? We will say a word or two about his piece to begin with, and will then pass on to "An Old Master."

An article in a philosophical Review has lately informed us that the most original of

living novelists evidently considers that Love is the main concern of Life. Mr. Thomas Hardy's conviction—if such it be—is manifestly shared by the whole of the *dramatis personae* in Mr. Derrick's bright, but somewhat disquieting, production. Mortimer Mumbleford and his young wife, Rose, have loved; James, the butler, and Maria, the housemaid, now love; Christopher Blizzard and Miss Lucretia Tricklebury are about to love. Thus is the verb conjugated. But, in Mr. Derrick's entertaining comedy, the loves of one are constantly being mistaken for the loves of the other; and a baby, whom the spectator is informed is the offspring of James and Maria—whose affections the Church has long privately sanctified, but who would lose their situations if they did not pass as single people—is now supposed to be the child of the mature Blizzard by some early and imprudent connexion, and now held to be sufficient evidence that young Mrs. Mumbleford's girlhood was not all that it ought to have been. Thus is Mr. Blizzard's scarcely girlish sweetheart made suspicious and uncomfortable, and thus does momentary indignation possess the breast of Rose's young husband. The confusions attendant upon these false surmises make the comic interest of the piece. The chief machinery employed for the purpose—and it is employed with the utmost ingenuity—consists of a puppy and of a telegram. The puppy is continually referred to in terms of endearment such as might be applied to an infant; and the telegram, which is really addressed to the butler's wife to summon her to her child, who is sick, is erroneously considered by some to have been directed to young Mrs. Mumbleford, and by others to the elderly Blizzard. We do not like the theme. We shall not be accused of prudishness, yet we may be suffered to consider it as ugly and awkward. But, this being said, we are as free to avow that it is handled with curious dexterity, that the treatment incites to continuous laughter, and that the acting of Messrs. Glenny, Groves, and Frederick Thorne and of Miss Larkin, Miss Emery, and Miss Kate Phillips is all that it is possible for it to be. Late in the piece, too, Mr. Lestocq presents a good bit of character-acting as one Dr. Bartholomew Jones. But the chief success is made—and the chief opportunity for success is enjoyed—by Mr. Frederick Thorne and Miss Larkin. Mr. Frederick Thorne plays the butler with a hundred expressions of comic horror and dismay; and Miss Larkin—the impersonator of Miss Tricklebury—as usual, portrays the vivacious yet scarcely captivating wiles of an elderly spinster bent upon changing her condition, but affecting a degree of puerile modesty and maidenly ignorance to which the healthy and the scientifically educated young woman of the period makes no claim. Miss Larkin, as an actress, possesses the speciality of the lady of hardly uncertain age who will, above all things, be coy, and yet is enamoured, and who seeks to renew, at fifty-three or thereabouts, the romance of youth. In such positions, as every London playgoer knows, Miss Larkin is inexpressibly funny.

"An Old Master," which they play from 8 to 9 o'clock, is on no account to be

missed. It bears to be thought about afterwards much better than does the longer and more boisterous entertainment which follows it, and this in spite of the fact that the circumstances it narrates are only a little less improbable than those which make the staple of "Confusion." A youthful baronet is nowadays so well advised that, if he stays in a fishing-village, he avoids falling too profoundly in love with the daughter of its schoolmaster. And the young woman of the day, whether she be the daughter of a village schoolmaster or of one in more exalted place, does not, in five minutes' pique, give up a good engagement to be married because her lover carries in a locket the portrait of another young woman who may be his sister, or his cousin, or his mother years ago. In Sir Rupert's case—with which we are now dealing—it was the portrait of his mother; and it bodes ill for the tranquillity of his married life that his sweetheart, Miss Penrose, got excited about it so easily. But yet we will excuse both improbabilities—both the man's engagement to marry and the girl's hasty breaking-off of the match—because, along with these, we have, first, on the writer's part, a delicate and discriminating little study of the mixed emotions which possess a worthy old fellow who knows that his daughter will marry well, and so well that there may be a gulf between them, and, secondly, on the actors' part, a refined and capable performance of father and child. Mr. Thomas Thorne is the father. His acting of Tom Pinch in "Martin Chuzzlewit"—to name no other part—had sufficiently proved his capacity for scenes of gentle pathos, restrained not only by the narrow limits of the situation, but likewise by the narrow limits of the character, by his humble timidity and awkward diffidence, by a certain loveable modesty which here and there may prevent the obscure and the unendowed from throwing upon the world the noisy evidence of their troubles. The old schoolmaster, as represented by Mr. Thorne, refrains from expressing to the full either his joy at the thought that his daughter may stay or his sorrow at the fear that she may go. The actor's art, and the effects that are seemingly within the range of his temperament, permit him to delicately suggest more than he can ever desire to actually accomplish. Not for him the passion torn to tatters, "to very rags," but the sentiment, daintily nurtured, gently preserved. He expresses with some subtlety the feeling that hesitates and is poised between hope and apprehension. Nor could he be better seconded, in efforts happily measured, than by Miss Emery, whose pretty impulsiveness and whose unforbearing *hauteur* are wholly youthful, and therefore wholly transient, and whose evident mobility of expression is exercised between limits which reach neither, on the one hand, to the exalted nor, on the other, to the appalling. The whole performance—Mr. Thorne's and Miss Emery's—is subdued and refined. It is of the sort that is so near to every-day nature that it is like to be the pit-fall of the well-bred amateur. The amateur thinks he can do just that, and do it easily, but he proves to be dull rather than natural, and not so much tender as tame.

FREDERICK WEDMORE.

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